

# The BULLETIN

OF THE  
MASSACHUSETTS AUDUBON SOCIETY



JOHN JAMES AUDUBON

"PASSENGER PIGEONS"

VOLUME XXXV

JUNE, 1951

Number 6

**MASSACHUSETTS AUDUBON SOCIETY**  
FOUNDED 1896 INCORPORATED 1914  
**FOR THE PROTECTION OF WILD BIRDS AND MAMMALS**

AUDUBON HOUSE, 155 Newbury Street, Boston.  
Open weekdays, except Saturday, 9:00 - 5:00; Saturday, 9:00 - 1:00.

**ROBERT WALCOTT**  
*President*

**C. RUSSELL MASON**  
*Executive Director*

**HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS**

Arthur C. Bent  
Thornton W. Burgess  
Lawrence B. Chapman  
Robert Crane  
Walter Prichard Eaton  
Samuel A. Eliot, Jr.

S. Gilbert Emilio  
Charles B. Floyd  
Hon. W. Cameron Forbes  
Dr. Alfred O. Gross  
Mrs. Augustus Hemenway  
Bartlett Hendricks  
William P. Wharton

Dr. Harris Kennedy  
Miss Heloise Meyer  
Roger Tory Peterson  
Henry S. Shaw  
John H. Storer  
Dr. George J. Wallace

**DIRECTORS**

OAKES I. AMES, *Chairman*

Mrs. Donald C. Alexander  
Clarence E. Allen  
Francis H. Allen  
Elliott B. Church  
G. W. Cottrell, Jr.  
Lee W. Court  
Roger Ernst  
Laurence B. Fletcher

Mrs. Maxwell E. Foster  
Ludlow Griscom  
Miss Minna B. Hall  
Philip B. Heywood  
Miss Louisa Hunnewell  
Edwin C. Johnson  
Ralph Lawson  
Dr. John B. May

Rosario Mazzeo  
Mrs. Lawrence K. Miller  
Alva Morrison  
Mrs. James F. Nields, Jr.  
Mrs. John Richardson  
Frederick A. Saunders  
Mrs. Sydney M. Williams

**MEMBERSHIP**

The Society needs a larger fund in order to sustain and increase its activities. Will you help expand its usefulness? The classes of Membership are:

Active Member, \$3.00 annually; Supporting Member, \$5.00 annually;

Contributing Member, \$10.00 annually; Life Member, \$100.00; Patron, \$500.00.

**ADVANTAGES OF MEMBERSHIP**

Personal participation in the preservation and restoration of native birds and mammals and their environment.

Information from competent specialists on the best methods of wildlife study and protection on home grounds, in sanctuaries, or elsewhere, and assistance in identification.

All members receive without further expense the monthly **BULLETIN**.

Opportunity to contribute toward an extensive **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM** for schools, youth groups, and camps throughout the State.

Use at any time of the Reference and Lending Libraries, Club Room, and other facilities at Audubon House, 155 Newbury Street, Boston.

Special Membership Rates for the Annual Lecture Course presented by foremost wildlife specialists in several cities of Massachusetts.

Members and their friends have free use of the Moose Hill and Arcadia wildlife sanctuaries.

Field trips and campouts at strategic points.

Special member's discount allowed on purchases of bird food, bird feeders, bird-houses, books, and other supplies.

# BULLETIN

OF THE

## MASSACHUSETTS AUDUBON SOCIETY

Publication Office: 380 North Avenue, North Abington, Mass.

Editorial Office: 155 Newbury Street, Boston 16, Mass.

All correspondence and changes of address should be directed to 155 Newbury St., Boston.

---

### *Issued monthly, except July, August, and September*

Entered as Second Class Matter, October 21, 1946, at the Post Office at North Abington, Mass., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

Bulletin subscription \$2.00 per annum, included in all Membership fees;

Records of New England Birds, \$2.00 per annum.

Single copies of either, 25 cents.

The Bulletin may also be obtained in Microfilm

---

C. RUSSELL MASON, *Editor*

JOHN B. MAY, *Associate Editor*

FRANCIS H. ALLEN, *Consulting Editor*

HELENA BRUCE, *Assistant Editor*

### **Contributing Editors**

ARTHUR C. BENT

ALFRED O. GROSS

THORNTON W. BURGESS

RICHARD HEADSTROM

JOHN V. DENNIS

BARTLETT HENDRICKS

SAMUEL A. ELIOT, JR.

HENRY M. PARKER

ADA CLAPHAM GOVAN

ROGER TORY PETERSON

LUDLOW GRISCOM

WINSOR M. TYLER

WILLIAM G. VINAL

RUTH P. EMERY, *Editor, Records of New England Birds*

---

VOLUME XXXV

JUNE, 1951

NUMBER 6

---

### **CONTENTS**

	<i>Page</i>
President's Page . . . . .	226
Audubon's "North to the Labrador" . . . . .	<i>Alfred O. Gross</i> 227
An American Bird-Watcher in Great Britain . . . . .	<i>Edna F. Sayward</i> 235
A Bird in the Nest is Worth—? . . . . .	<i>Jane Hatcher Bunn</i> 240
"So Much For So Little" (Membership Notes) . . . . .	241
Notes From Our Sanctuaries . . . . .	243
Report of State-Wide Bird Walks . . . . .	<i>Ruth P. Emery</i> 248
The Sanctuaries of the Massachusetts Audubon Society . . . . .	249
I Raised a Robin . . . . .	<i>Marjorie Ellms</i> 253
Notes on Some Birds of Jamaica . . . . .	<i>Dr. William B. Bartlett</i> 255
A Hint for Butterfly Collectors . . . . .	<i>Francis E. Park</i> 257
Raindrops (Verse) . . . . .	<i>Barbara Burn</i> 258
Classroom Use of Live Subjects Calls for Good Judgment . . . . .	<i>Emily Goode</i> 259
Reviews of Recent Acquisitions . . . . .	265, 266
From Our Correspondence . . . . .	268
Field Notes . . . . .	269, 270, 271, 272

## The President's Page



The Cormorants now fishing in the Charles River Basin and drying their outstretched wings on the buoys marking the mooring of cabin cruisers off the Technology buildings are an example of the happy untrammelled life led in this Republic. Here *Phalacrocorax* may choose his grounds, fish are provided by a benevolent Commonwealth, and if envious human piscatoes—the phrase is Walton's—envy him they may not shoot him, for the use of firearms is forbidden within the city limits of Boston and Cambridge. In our landscape and on our maps he is an important feature. Rocks and islands along the coast of New England bear his name: Old Shag, Shag Ledge, etc., so recorded by the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey. Some say that he doubled for his cousin the Eagle on our early coinage!

Now think of his status in the former despotisms of the East. He is domesticated, or, in other words, reduced to servitude, for he must labor, not as suits himself or his family, but as suits the owner of the hands that tie the cord around his neck and set him overboard on ocean or river to take in all the fish he can, and when these are expelled from his pouch only the smallest are made his share. Does not this sound like peasants working on the Collective Farms of the Union of Soviet Republics?

Robert Leach



## Audubon's "North to the Labrador"

BY ALFRED O. GROSS



ALFRED M. BAILEY FROM NAT. AUDUBON SOC.

The Lincoln's Sparrow was discovered by Tom Lincoln, and named by Audubon for him, in 1833.

It was on June 6, 1833, that Audubon sailed from Eastport, Maine, to fulfill his long-cherished ambition to visit the bird colonies of the Gulf of St. Lawrence and the southern coast of the Labrador Peninsula. There he hoped to discover new species of birds, as well as to observe many birds in their breeding plumages which he had seen previously only as winter visitors during his extensive travels in the more southerly regions of North America. At that time little or nothing was known of the courtship, nesting, and other habits of most of these northern species, and Audubon hoped to increase his knowledge of these birds and to obtain material for many new paintings.

At Eastport Audubon chartered the schooner *Ripley*, under the command Captain Henry Emery, for the summer cruise to the northward. While the *Ripley* was being outfitted for the trip, Audubon spent some time at the home of Judge Theodore Lincoln in near-by Dennysville. The old Lincoln house still stands, a fine sturdy house which was built in 1787 by General Benjamin Lincoln, an aide to General George Washington during the War for Independence. The land where it stands was granted to General Lincoln in recognition of his services at this time, and the house overlooks the Dennys River, a well-known salmon stream.



MARY CARPENTER KELLEY FROM CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR

Tom Lincoln's home in Dennysville, Maine, built in 1787 by General Benjamin Lincoln, is still standing. Audubon spent some time here in 1833.

Audubon took advantage of his time spent at Dennysville to paint a number of bird portraits, including those of the Spruce Grouse and the Canada Jay, birds previously unknown to this visitor from the Sunny South. And he also enlisted the enthusiastic support of "young Tom Lincoln," who, with Audubon's own son John Woodhouse Audubon, Dr. George C. Shattuck, William Ingalls, and Joseph A. Coolidge, was to be included in Audubon's staff of collectors, naturalists, and painters.

Before the *Ripley* was completely outfitted, the young men of Audubon's party made a brief visit to some of the islands of the Bay of Fundy, where they found great numbers of Herring Gulls nesting on the low spruces, as they still nest at Kent Island, the biological station maintained by Bowdoin College. When the *Ripley* finally sailed from Eastport, it was given a rousing farewell by the town's population and the many local friends of the party. The sea was so rough while they were crossing the Bay of Fundy that all were "shockingly" seasick. On June 8th they passed the southern end of Nova Scotia, where Audubon reported that the "Stormy Petrel" (Leach's Petrel) was breeding abundantly on the Mud Islands. The burrows of these interesting birds were numerous and were like so many "rat holes" over the whole of the sandy, grass-covered islands. On June 11 the *Ripley* entered the Gut of Canso, where the party had an excellent view of the surrounding country, and then as they passed on into the Gulf of St. Lawrence they marveled at the beauty of the undulating hills and the rugged coast of Cape Breton Island, where today is located the scenic "Cabot Trail."

The *Ripley* arrived at the Magdalen Islands, far out in the Gulf, on June 13. Audubon wrote in his journal: "At four this morning we were seated at



ALFRED M. BAILEY

**A Red-throated Loon leaving its nest, Labrador.**

breakfast around our great drawing table; the thermometer was at 44°; we blew our fingers and drank our coffee, feeling as if in the very heart of winter, and when we landed I felt so chilled that it would have been quite out of the question to use my hands for any delicate work." To many of us New Englanders it may seem that Audubon often overemphasized the hardships of the expedition and especially the climate, but we should remember that he was accustomed to working under more ideal conditions in the warmer climate of the southern United States. At his age of forty-eight years it was more difficult for him to adjust himself to rigorous conditions than it was for the younger members of the party.

The party landed at Entry Island of the Magdalens between two bluffs which were the resort of many Black Guillemots, or "Sea Pigeons," birds he was destined to find in abundance in almost all the places he was to visit. He discovered that these birds, instead of laying only a single egg as had been reported, had a usual clutch of three eggs, and in the *Birds of America* he made quite an ado concerning this discovery. His painting of the Black Guillemot was made here at the Magdalens.

The next day they set sail to the northeastward to visit the Bird Rocks on their way to the Labrador. John M. Clarke, in his *Heart of Gaspé*, describes the present appearance of these tiny islets: "The Great or Northern Bird is a flat rock table . . . made up of the same horizontal gray sandstones which compose . . . much of the Magdalen group, and these have sheer vertical walls on all sides, rising to a height of 150 feet . . . Its grassy top covers near seven acres of ground. . . . In the early days, the two little fragments

now known as the Little Birds, were evidently one, but the sea has broken them apart." These are the islets which Jacques Cartier visited in July of 1534 and where he found the Gannets so abundant that he named the rocks the "Iles-aux-Margaux," or Gannet Islands. In Cartier's time the "Little Birds" were the nesting place also of numbers of Great Auks, but these had already disappeared before Audubon's visit and were doomed to complete and final extermination only a decade later.

As the *Ripley* approached the Bird Rocks Audubon saw many Gannets, Kittiwakes, and Alcids on or above the tossing waters of the Gulf, and the numbers increased greatly as they approached the breeding colony. Audubon wrote in his journal: "At eleven I could distinguish its top plainly from the deck, and thought it was covered with snow to the depth of several feet; this appearance existed on every portion of the flat, projecting shelves [of Great Bird Rock] . . . I rubbed my eyes, took my spy-glass, and in an instant the strangest picture stood before me. They were birds we saw,—a mass of birds of such size as I never before cast my eyes on. The whole of my party stood astounded and amazed, and all came to the conclusion that such a sight was of itself sufficient to invite any one to come across the Gulf to view it at this season. The nearer we approached, the greater our surprise at the enormous number of these birds, all calmly seated on their eggs or newly hatched brood, their heads all turned to windward, and towards us. The air above for a hundred yards, and for some distance around the whole rock, was filled with Gannets on the wing, which from our position made it appear as if a heavy fall of snow was directly above us."

An attempt to land on the Rock was made by a party, including Audubon's son and Tom Lincoln, but, unfortunately, the high winds and heavy rain made it impossible. They did succeed in collecting several Gannets, and these served as models in making Plate No. 326, which was drawn with the threatening sky and stormy sea which prevailed at the time as a background. The party also noted the presence of many Kittiwakes, "Foolish Guillemots" (Atlantic Murres), and Razor-billed Auks nesting on the narrower rock shelves of the high cliffs. A Mr. Godwin who served as pilot during the trip to Bird Rock told Audubon of the great annual slaughter of the birds by the fishermen and others who used the flesh as bait for cod fishing, enough to supply forty fishing boats. On one occasion, according to Mr. Goodwin, six men killed 540 Gannets in the course of an hour. Today the colony is included in a Dominion Bird Sanctuary, and the birds are zealously guarded by the keepers of the lighthouse situated on the plateau of the Rock.

As the *Ripley* continued northward to the Labrador coast, many alcids and "millions" of ducks were seen flying from the northwest toward the southeast. Audubon became most enthusiastic about his anticipated visit, as indicated by the entry in his journal for June 17: "I looked on our landing on the coast of Labrador as a matter of great importance. My thoughts were filled, not with airy castles, but with the expectations of the new knowledge of birds and quadrupeds which I hoped to acquire." Audubon was due to be somewhat disillusioned, for when the party landed at American Harbor (now Natashquan) on June 17 he wrote: "But what a country! When we landed and passed the beach, we sank nearly up to our knees in mosses of various sorts, producing as we moved through them a curious sensation. . . . We scrambled about, and with anxiety stretched our necks and looked over the country far and near but not a square foot of *earth* could we see. A poor,



ALFRED O. GROSS

**A female American Elder on her nest.**

rugged, miserable country; the trees looked like so many mops of wiry composition and where the soil is not rocky it is boggy up to a man's waist. We searched and searched; but, after all, only shot an adult Pigeon Hawk, a summer plumage Tell-tale Godwit [Greater Yellow-legs] and an *Alca torda* [Razor-billed Auk].” Again on July 21 he wrote: “The coast of Labrador is all alike comfortless, cold and foggy, yet grand.” Finally on August 11 when leaving Labrador, he stated: “Seldom in my life have I left a country with as little regret as this.” But in spite of adverse weather conditions, the rough seas whether anchored in a harbor or while sailing in the open, the crowded, cold, wet, and unsatisfactory conditions of the schooner, to say nothing of the constant annoyance of blackflies and mosquitoes, he worked hard and unceasingly. On June 20 he wrote: “I have drawn seventeen and a half hours this day and my poor head aches badly enough,” and on July 5: “I drew from four o'clock this morning until three this afternoon.” He allowed himself only short trips from his work for observation and exercise. As a result of this perseverance and application, he succeeded in drawing, or at least in bringing near completion, twenty-three of his superb drawings before leaving the Labrador Peninsula.

There were times, of course, when Audubon saw the brighter side. July second was one of those rare fine days, and Audubon wrote a glowing account of his experience: “The country, so wild and grand, is of itself enough to interest anyone in its wonderful dreariness. Its mossy, gray-clothed rocks, heaped and thrown together as if by chance, in the most fantastical groups imaginable . . . Bays without end, sprinkled with rocky islands of all shapes and sizes, where in every fissure a Guillemot, a Cormorant or some other wild bird retreats to secure its egg, and raise its young. . . . Butterflies flitting over snow-banks, probing beautiful dwarf flowerets of many hues pushing



their tender stems from the thick bed of moss which everywhere covers the granite rocks . . . The beautiful fresh-water lakes, on the rugged crests of greatly elevated islands, wherein the Red and Black-necked Divers swim as proudly as swans do in other latitudes . . . How beautiful it is now, when one sees the wild bee, moving from one flower to another in search of food, which doubtless is as sweet to it, as the essence of the Magnolia is to those of favored Louisiana. The little Ring Plover rearing its delicate and tender young, the Eider Duck swimming man-of-war-like amid her floating brood, like the guardship of a most valuable convoy; the White-crowned Bunting's sonorous note reaching the ear ever and anon; the crowds of sea-birds in search of places wherein to repose or to feed—how beautiful is all this in this wonderful rocky desert at this season, the beginning of July." In the years after his visit to Labrador, Audubon, like everyone else who goes on such an arduous expedition, tended to forget the hardships and remembered the more delightful ornithological experiences brilliantly portrayed in many of his biographies of the northern birds in his *Birds of America*.

On June 27, 1833, on the Esquimaux Islands at the mouth of the Natashquan River, the only new bird to be discovered by the expedition was first collected. Audubon named this bird *Fringilla lincolni* (Tom's Finch), in honor of Thomas Lincoln, of Dennysville, Maine, a favorite member of the party, who collected the first specimen and recognized it as a new species. This bird, now *Melospiza lincolni lincolni*, is still commonly known as Lincoln's Sparrow. Although Audubon had been in Labrador ten days before the bird was discovered, he later procured a number of specimens. The birds became more abundant and less shy the farther north the party proceeded, but they did not succeed in finding a nest, though many young were seen out of the nests after July 4. By the second week of August, all of these sparrows had apparently left on their migration.

Mrs. Arthur T. (Annie Maxwell) Lincoln, formerly of Dennysville, who passed on recently at the age of ninety-four, presented an original Audubon print of Lincoln's Sparrow, along with various records, to the Maine Audubon Society in memory of her husband's father, who collected the original specimen in 1833. This print is now on exhibition in the Laboratory of Ornithology at Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine. In Thomas Lincoln's journal for July 4, 1833, he wrote: "Mr. Audubon finished a drawing of a new finch which I shot at the Esquimaux Islands, there are several rare and beautiful plants peculiar to the country with it." (Plate No. 195.) The plants mentioned by Lincoln are the Northern Bunchberry, *Cornus suecica*, Bake-apple-berry, *Rubus Chamaemorus*, and Pale Laurel, *Kalmia polifolia*. Audubon, in his *Birds of America*, wrote: "The plants represented along with a pair of these birds, grew in the little valley in which the first individual seen by us was procured. They were taken up with a spade from the midst of a broad bed of mosses, and may serve to convey an idea of the nature of the vegetation of those places."

Many ornithologists who have visited this part of the coast of Labrador have seen the Lincoln's Sparrow where the type specimen was first discovered. During the summer of 1928 George Miksch Sutton, one of our most notable present-day bird artists, followed Audubon's footsteps on the Labrador coast and not only found the bird at Natashquan but succeeded in locating and photographing its nest.

From Natashquan Audubon and his party sailed to Mecattina Harbor. On the way they passed islands inhabited by many guillemots and cormorants,





ALFRED O. GROSS

**The Atlantic Puffin gives its local name to Perroquet Island off the Labrador Coast.**

and at one island they secured several fine specimens of the Atlantic Puffin, which served as the basis for the nesting scene of this unique bird portrayed by Audubon in Plate No. 213. Later in August, just before leaving the coast, the party visited the famous puffin colony on Perroquet Island, located about two miles from the harbor of Bras d'Or. In describing his visit to this island, Audubon wrote: "For every burrow in the island previously visited by us there seemed to be a hundred more, on every crag or stone stood a Puffin, at the entrance of each hole another, and yet the sea was covered and the air filled with them. . . . One might have imagined half the Puffins in the world had assembled there." Audubon obtained more specimens at this island and gathered much valuable information which has been recorded in his journals and his *Birds of America*.

In a graphic account of a storm which lashed the Labrador coast on July 10, Audubon gives a description of the behavior of certain birds: "The Great Black-backed Gull alone is seen floating through the storm, screaming loudly and mournfully as it seeks its prey; not another bird is to be seen abroad; the Cormorants are all settled in the rocks close to us; the Guillemots are deep in the fissures, every Eider Duck lays under the lee of some point, her brood snugly beneath her opened wings, the Loon and the Diver have crawled among the rankest weeds, and are patiently waiting for a return of fair weather, the Grouse is quite hid under the creeping willow, the Great Gray Owl is perched on the southern declivity of some stupendous rock, and the gale continues as if it would never stop."

On July 18, while at Mecattina Harbor, a nest with four young of the Acadian Chickadee, *Parus hudsonicus littoralis*, was found. The adults and young were collected for the making of Plate No. 194, on which Audubon worked during the following day. Here he also heard the remarkable song of the Ruby-crowned Kinglet and exclaimed: "What would I give to find the nest of this *northern Hummingbird*?" Mention is also made of the Fox and White-throated Sparrows, the Blackpoll Warbler, the (Northern) Horned Lark, the Peregrine Falcon, and the seeing of half a dozen Lincoln's Sparrows.

At daylight on July 26 the expedition arrived at Bras d'Or Harbor. Here on August 3 Audubon and his party saw hundreds of Eskimo Curlew, *Numenius borealis*, now probably extinct. He compared the behavior of these birds with that of the Passenger Pigeon with which he was so familiar. He

wrote: "They fly in compact bodies, with beautiful evolutions, overlooking a great extent of country ere they make choice of a spot on which to alight; this is done whenever a certain berry, called here 'Curlew Berry' [*Empetrum nigrum*] proves to be abundant. Here they balance themselves, call, whistle, and of common accord come to the ground. . . . This species feeds on the berries it procures, with a rapidity equalled only by that of the Passenger Pigeon; in an instant all the ripe berries on the plant are plucked and swallowed, and the whole country is cleared of these berries as our western woods are of the mast. In their evolutions they resemble the Pigeons also, sweeping over the ground, cutting backward and forward in the most interesting manner, and now and then poising in the air like a Hawk in sight of quarry." Seven of the birds were shot and used the next day as models in the drawing of Plate No. 208.

Audubon, while on this Labrador expedition, prepared a total of twenty-three drawings, among which, in addition to those already mentioned, are the following: Pomarine Jaeger, Red-throated and Common Loon, Arctic Tern, Willow Ptarmigan, American Pipit, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Razor-billed Auk, and Double-crested and European Cormorant. Seventy-three skins were prepared, chiefly by his son John Woodhouse Audubon, and they also brought home a large collection of plants and other natural history objects.

Although Audubon was an ardent sportsman and also in the course of his work collected many birds often in large series, he was greatly disturbed by the commercialized destruction of bird life at the colonies which he visited on this Labrador expedition by the so-called "eggers." He published a lengthy and impassioned account of their depredations and even predicted the ultimate extermination of the myriads of birds. That his fears were not without foundation is evidenced by the fact that the Great Auk became extinct only a decade after his early protest was made, the Labrador Duck (which Audubon searched for but we have no evidence that he ever saw alive) disappeared forty years later, and the Eskimo Curlew is probably now gone forever, in spite of its great abundance when Audubon saw it in Labrador. That others of the abundant colonial birds of the Labrador have not also disappeared is due largely to the protection now afforded them, for all the more important colonies have been established as sanctuaries under the supervision of the Canadian Department of Resources and Development, and all the occupied rookeries are patrolled by wardens throughout the breeding season.

Audubon and his party left the Labrador coast on August 11 and arrived at St. George's Bay, Newfoundland, on August 13. On August 22 he and several of the group were put ashore on Reys Island, from which place they made their way to the mainland and thence to Pictou to continue their journey home by land. When Audubon landed, he exclaimed in characteristic manner: "We were now, thanks to God, positively on the mainland of our native country."

#### Next Bulletin in October

We remind our members that with the June issue of the *Bulletin* publication is discontinued until October. An announcement of coming events will, however, be mailed to all members in an August *Newsletter*.

## An American Bird-Watcher in Great Britain

By EDNA F. SAYWARD



AMERICAN MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

**The Skylark is one of Europe's best-loved birds.**

While there were many interesting places I wanted to see in Britain, I looked forward with the greatest pleasure and anticipation to seeing the birds.

I had enjoyed W. H. Hudson's accounts of his searching for British birds and our former President Theodore Roosevelt's story of his walking with Lord Grey to observe and listen to the birds, and I had read numerous accounts of other bird-lovers in Britain, so that it seemed to me that I might not have time to enjoy any of the other wonders Britain had to offer me.

Two very good books on British birds had been presented to me before I left home. In London I went to the natural history museum and studied the collection of specimens there. There were many school children sketching and studying them (some with their teachers). One lad of ten had a much-worn handbook of pocket size which he recommended to me, as did his mother, who was just as interested as her son. When I went to buy a copy of this *Observers' Book of British Birds*, I found that there is a series of "Observers' Books," covering wild flowers, trees, ferns, etc.

The evening that I arrived in London I heard in near-by Berkeley Square a beautiful clear song which I was sure belonged to a member of the thrush family. The long evening twilight encouraged the bird to sing, and me to go in search of the singer. I found a coal-black bird with an orange bill busily picking up nesting material and pausing frequently to sing its lovely song to its mate, an all-over-brown bird. They were about the size of our American Robin and were the famous English thrush, the Blackbird. I was glad that this was the first bird to sing for me, as I believe it is the most popular songster in Britain. I heard the bird often, in all parts of Britain.

The most common bird, I found, was the Chaffinch, about the size of our Bluebird, with a brown back and greenish rump, very conspicuous white wing bars, slate blue on top of the head and pink on its breast. This is a very lovely and cheerful little finch, quite attractive with its pink breast and its call note, which, strangely, is *pink, pink, pink*, and it is heard all over England and Scotland, and on Skye. There is another very handsome member of the finch family, the Bullfinch, heavier than the Chaffinch, with a blue-gray back, a velvety black head, and rosy pink breast, not as common as the Chaffinch. I did not see the Hawfinch.

Their Linnet is very like our Purple Finch, but its song is not so lovely. I saw the Greenfinch and heard its song many times, also the Yellow Bunting, or Yellowhammer, which is another finch. The Cirl Bunting is rather like the Yellow Bunting but is not as common. The European Goldfinch is larger than the American and very different in appearance, not as golden, and with red about the bill.

The crow family is a very large one, its most attractive member being the Magpie, black with much white on breast and wings, and with a noticeably long tail, very much like our Magpie of the far West. The Chough is one of the rarest of the crow family, and it is the handsomest and with the best traits. The Chough is glossy black all over, with scarlet beak and feet. The Rook is almost symbolic of England. Every village has one or more "rookeries" to be seen in the tops of tall trees. The Rook is a large crow, about nineteen inches in length, and very like the Carrion Crow except that it has a white patch about the base of the long, heavy bill. The Raven was the largest of the crows which I saw and is more common in Scotland than in England. The Jackdaw is a small crow and can be seen all over the country. It has gray on top of its head and on the back of its neck. The Hooded Crow is a large one with ash-gray back and under parts. The larger members of this family are usually seen in the fields, often following the sheep.

The handsomest bird I saw in the fields, both in England and Scotland, was the Lapwing, or Green Plover. At a distance it has the appearance of a black and white bird, but, close to, its plumage is glossy greenish and iridescent, and it has a long upstanding crest.

A shore bird which I had seen but once in America, at Marshfield, Massachusetts, I saw several times in Scotland. This was the Oyster-catcher, a bird about the size of our Green Heron, with glossy black head and upper breast, white under parts, a heavy red bill, and red eyes and feet. It resembles the American bird very closely.

I was most anxious to hear the song of the Nightingale, and soon after my arrival I began to inquire where this bird was to be found. It usually is found in the southeastern part of England, although an occasional song is heard farther north. The season of song is comparatively short, only during the mating and nesting seasons. The birds arrive in southern England in May and depart in September, and as soon as the eggs are hatched in early June the singing ceases, for then Mr. Nightingale, who does the singing, becomes very busy with household cares and is silent from then on.

Most appropriately, I heard my first Nightingale in a thicket up on the Hanger, the famous beech wood above Selborne, where England's best known and most admired naturalist, Gilbert White, lived and wrote his *Natural History of Selborne*. Selborne has been called the most typical English village,

and it is exactly what your mind pictures when you read or dream of a quiet secluded English hamlet. I had gone alone up the old "Zig-zag," a path made by Gilbert White and his brother when they were boys, before the middle of the eighteenth century, and I was strolling along a beautiful path under those great beeches when, suddenly, from a tangle of bushes a most thrilling low warble began. It was so sweet and entirely strange to me that I held my breath for fear the singer would stop. There were various phrases and trills to the song, and he did not sing very long, as though he were giving me a sample of what he *could* do. As he flew out of his hiding place I saw a small, plain brown bird, which reminded me of a small thrush, but the breast was plain, not spotted. I had no idea what it could be. That evening after dinner I took a walk down the "Long Lythe" (an old roadway in the valley, along the brook). There I met a pleasant-looking woman who had been gathering wild flowers, and we stopped to talk (what a world of pleasure and information I should have missed if I had not obeyed my impulse to stop and talk with strangers all over the country!) I told her of the beautiful song I had heard on the Hanger and described it as best I could. She said, "Why, you must have heard a Nightingale." My feelings cannot be conveyed! To think I had heard my first Nightingale in Gilbert White's beloved Hanger!

In June, while I was staying in Tewkesbury, a very kind Scotsman who knew and loved wild birds twice took me on a country road where he had been told Nightingales were nesting, in the hope of hearing them sing. We did hear short bits of song, but it was too late to hear the full glory. So I still have to listen for the Nightingale at its best and at night "in the moonlight."

From Folkestone I went down the shore to Romney Marsh, where W. H. Hudson often went to see the birds as they were returning in the spring. Long before I had any idea when I should ever go to England, I used to mark on a map the places where the different British writers saw and heard their spring birds.

The "Marsh" is a great expanse of reclaimed tidal meadow. It is about the greenest green you could hope to see, and it has thousands of sheep and their white, woolly lambs grazing on it. While I was still a long way off I could hear the Skylarks singing. I sat down on the path and watched them mount high into the air, singing all the time, and for minutes, while they hung up there against the blue and white. I was unwilling to leave so peaceful a spot. The Skylark is a small brown bird, with faint streaks of darker brown, and a small crest which it raises and lowers at will. It has one of the most joyful of all wild bird songs. I later saw and heard them on the hillsides of Skye, and there found one of their nests with three eggs in it, brown streaked and splotched with purplish-brown.

My first visit to New Forest was in the second week of May. I stayed at an old inn which had formerly been a school for boys. (When one of Queen Victoria's grandsons was in school there, he was short of spending money and wrote to her asking that she send him "half a crown." She replied that she certainly would not; that he should be more careful of his money. He wrote her that it was all right: he had sold her autograph for a half crown!) It was a lovely comfortable old building and surrounded by the Forest. A short walk took me into quiet woodsy paths, where I sat and walked and enjoyed Nature's "various language" which Bryant mentions in "Thanatopsis." There I saw and heard for the first time the Bullfinch, Wood Warbler, and Song Thrush. I saw the Coal-tit, much like our familiar Chickadee, feeding its young; and



in the distance I heard the Cuckoo (it sounded exactly like the cuckoo clock!) The voice of the European bird is not like that of either of our American cuckoos. I had always wondered why the clock sounded so unlike the birds we know as cuckoos.

That May day in New Forest reminded me of the following from Wilfred Wetters' *British Birds*: "The loveliest time of the year, when every thing is quick with new growth, many colours of trees and hedges, blossoms and spring flowers, sun and white clouds, rainbows, leaping lambs, ducklings on farm ponds — above all the song of birds." For the birds had taken possession of these woods that day, and those great old trees were full of them and their songs.

There were lovely wild flowers all about me, and I picked some sprays of a strange white "lily" to take to the hotel to ask what they were. When I got a whiff of their aroma I did *not* take them to the hotel. They were wild garlic! On the hotel lawn I saw my first White Wagtail. There are five different members of the wagtail group, all handsome birds, but the Yellow, the Grey, and the Blue-headed have more or less blue and sulphur yellow in their markings. They are very graceful, and quick in their movements, and their tails are constantly bobbing up and down.

A retired clergyman spends much of the year at this hotel, and he is a true nature lover. He identified many wild flowers for me and showed me the nest of a Chaffinch he had found, with eggs in it. That was a great compliment, for you don't betray the birds to just anyone.

The Meadow, or Tawny, Pipit is closely related to the wagtails but not nearly as common. I saw just one of them, and that was up in the Trossachs on my way to visit the grave of Rob Roy and his family.

There are five kinds of titmice in Britain, all much like our own titmice or chickadees. The Blue, the Great, and the Long-tailed Titmice are more colorful than our Black-capped Chickadee, but they all have the same quick, entertaining antics. In Scotland the woman with whom I lived strung some peanuts (they call them "monkey nuts") on a wire and fastened it across outside my window, for the tits. It was as good as a circus to watch these persistent little "monkeys" swing around on those nuts and work at them until they had cleaned them out. A small piece of shell was cut off each end of the peanuts to start the task for the birds. I could scarcely wait to get home to try that trick on my Chickadees, but, like many other Americans, they have had things made too easy for them and they refused to work for their dinner. Their peanuts are picked out for them and ground into peanut butter!

The thrush family in Britain is a larger one than ours. There is no one that closely resembles our Wood Thrush, Veery, or Hermit. The Mistle (or Missel) Thrush is larger and darker brown than any of our thrushes. The Song Thrush is a beautiful singer, brown with a spotted breast. They build their nests and feed near running water. The Robin Redbreast is a diminutive thrush and a very friendly, cheerful little brown bird with a red breast and large, bright eyes. Its sweet song was still to be heard in many dooryards when I left Britain in November. The Robins commonly follow the gardeners and pick up the worms turned over by their spades.

The Ouzel was a bird I had wanted to see ever since I had read John Muir's account of his summers spent in the Yosemite. When I was out there I looked in vain for a Water Ouzel. On the Deveron River in Huntley, Scotland, not far from Aberdeenshire where Muir was born, I saw the Ring Ouzel



skipping along over the rocks just as Muir described our bird doing in our western mountain streams.

I saw a striking woodpecker larger than our Flicker, green all over with red on head and nape with the same undulating flight as our bird, the Green Woodpecker, and I also saw the Great Spotted Woodpecker, which corresponds to our Hairy, but I did not see the Lesser Spotted Woodpecker, similar to our Downy.

I saw wrens, warblers, flycatchers, swallows, and many others, but I have saved the best for the last. In the museum in London I saw a jewel of a bird that I hoped to see alive and well in his own environment before I left Britain. As I moved along from one place to the next I was often asked, "Have you seen our Kingfisher?" When I was near any stream I was always on the look-out for one. At Ross on the Wye River I hired an old boatman to take me on the river after dinner, and we stayed until dark looking for the Kingfisher, but none was to be seen. Then at Stratford I haunted the banks of the River Avon, but saw no Kingfisher. The last week of October I went to Southampton, from which place I was to sail home on November first. Early one morning I crossed the Ichen River and took three different busses until I came to Wickham. There was a small stream flowing through the town, and I went into the railroad station and inquired if they ever saw any Kingfishers along the stream. A young man came out of the office and told me that I would not find any there and that they were becoming rare, but he lived in Sorberton and nearly every week end he saw a Kingfisher along the Meon River. He told me just how to get to Sorberton and what lane to take to the Meon River. It was a beautiful October afternoon with still plenty of daylight, so I took another bus and rode through some of the loveliest countryside I had yet seen.

The lane in Sorberton down which I was to walk had been an old Roman way, and it was worn down so deep that the hedges were high above me on either side. It was such a peaceful country! Men were picking apples, but all was so quiet. I followed the lane for about half a mile and went under a railroad crossing, then continued another quarter mile to the banks of the Meon. I began to walk slowly, for if there was a bird there I did not want to run the risk of frightening it. I was growing quite tense, and I said in a whisper, "Dear Lord, let me see a Kingfisher." I did not have the prayer out of my mouth before there was a flash of vivid blue, and a Kingfisher sped down the river and into some bushes! I barely had time to get my bird glasses on him, BUT I had seen a Kingfisher! It was worth all the time and trouble I had taken to find it, and I never expect to see anything more beautiful. It was a little larger than one of our nuthatches; it had a very stout, long bill and a very short tail. The upper parts are an iridescent blue-green, the lower parts and ear-patches are chestnut red. I did not hear its voice, so I do not know from experience whether it makes the same rattle as our Belted Kingfisher. The bird books merely say: "it has a sharp whistle and a warbling song," or, as another expresses it, "a sweet trilling song"!

### News of Bird Clubs

Scheduled events for the early summer for the HOFFMANN BIRD CLUB, of Pittsfield, include an overnight trip to Mt. Greylock on June 23-24, and a Picnic Supper at Hancock on Sunday, July 1, with Bartlett Hendricks in charge.

## A Bird In The Nest Is Worth ---?

BY JANE HATCHER BUNN

One day last June my children rushed excitedly into the house to report that a small bird had fallen from its nest into my garden. Feeling somewhat inadequate, because tree-climbing has not been my "dish of tea" for many years, I followed the children into the yard. The bird was indeed *young*. It was completely naked and looked "squashy." I needn't have worried about having to climb a tree to return the baby to its home, for the nest was only slightly above my eye level in my honeysuckle bush. What an ill-chosen site for a nest! It was built upon a fork of such slender branches that a mild wind could tip the nest and spill out the wee birds. It was tipped at a dangerous angle when I first discovered it and required only one more puff of wind to dislodge it entirely. The mother Mockingbird was frantic! She was screaming in her shrillest voice as she swung round and round her babies. How helpless she was! It made my heart ache. How ghastly to realize that your babies are likely to perish and that you are utterly powerless to help them!

Before I touched the fallen birdling, I attempted to straighten the nest and to make it more secure. The mother flew at me, flapped her wings in my face, pecked me, screamed desperately — trying to save her babies from this new enemy. I talked softly and soothingly to her, trying to explain that I was only trying to help her, but to no avail. She attacked me so wildly that I was forced to shield my face with my left arm while endeavoring to straighten the nest with my right hand. Finally I managed to level it enough so that the other little birds were comparatively safe. Then I wondered how in the world I could pick up the fallen one without harming it — it looked so awfully delicate and squashy. In the end I slipped a piece of cardboard underneath as I rolled the bird upon it with a piece of kleenex; then I dumped it as carefully as I could back into the nest. All this with absolutely no co-operation from the mother. She believed firmly I was intent upon doing evil throughout the entire performance.

A few mornings later I was strolling happily around my garden inspecting each plant to see what progress it had made since the evening before, when suddenly the Mockingbird attacked me in much the same manner as before. Since I was on the other side of the yard, hadn't been near her nest, and was generally minding my own business, I was not only surprised but also indignant. I said: "Well, for Pete's sake, what have I done *now*?" In reply, she screeched, flapped her wings in my face, flew swiftly over to her nest, screeched again, whirled around, flew back into my face, then back to her nest, then back to me again, crying the while. How stupid she must think me! Finally it dawned upon me that the bird was behaving as a dog does when he wishes you to follow him. So of course I followed her to her nest. It had fallen down to the branch below where it was teetering precariously. The slightest movement of the bush would have sent it to the ground. It was amazing to me that it had balanced there at all! This time the mother bird perched close to my shoulder chirping encouragement and thanks while I moved her nest full of babies from one spot to another until I found one which I hoped would provide adequate protection.

After that I visited her family every day, and she always seemed to welcome me.

## "So Much For So Little" We're Climbing!

One of our aims in observing this Audubon Centenary Year has been to win a host of new friends for the society and its work. Our carefully planned and varied "Audubon in Massachusetts" program has been given wide and favorable publicity by the press and radio, by libraries and museums, schools and colleges, banks and booksellers, and through many other channels. Literature on Audubon's life and work has been published and distributed, and "Audubon's America," the strikingly beautiful color film prepared especially for this centennial year is in increasing demand by organizations throughout the State. Thus the Audubon movement is being attractively presented to thousands of individuals throughout Massachusetts and beyond, and as a result we look forward to greatly increased interest in and support of our work as the year progresses. During the summer months we trust we shall all have many opportunities to pay tribute to John James Audubon and the important program which is being carried on in his name.

It is a pleasure to welcome the following new members to the Society at this time:

### Life Members

Lee, Mrs. Charles, East Orange, N. J.

\*Smith, Mrs. Sumner, Lincoln

Young, Miss Elizabeth A., Cambridge

### Contributing Members

Munson, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth A.,  
Topsfield

### Supporting Members

\*Carroll, Mrs. Elizabeth C., West Boylston

Claffin, Mrs. W. H., III, Belmont

Hamilton, Mrs. Doris, West Roxbury

Wadsworth, Miss Edith B., West Newton

### Active Members

Adams, Mrs. Henry B., Marlboro

Aicardi, Mrs. Joan, Squantum

Albee, Mrs. Evelyn A., North Sudbury

Amundsen, Miss Jonine,

New Haven, Conn.

Bacon, Miss Rosamond, Braintree

Bailey, Miss Mildred F., Webster

Baker, Mrs. Holmes D., Frederick, Md.

Bayley, Mrs. David, Northbridge

Bigelow, Mrs. Henry F., Bolton

Blackett, Mrs. William, Dedham

Hiram Blake Camp, Cape Rosier, Me.

Bond, Mrs. William H., Arlington

Bosworth, Dr. George, Kingston

Brackett, Mrs. Arthur H., Marblehead

Bradley, Leonard, Wilton, Conn.

Brinkerhoff, Mrs. Richard F.,

Exeter, N. H.

Brown, Mrs. Chester, Jr., West Peabody

Brown, Mortimer, Westport, Conn.

Buffum, Jesse H., Boston

Burns, Miss Talisman, Burlington

Bussewitz, A. W., Sharon

\*Transferred from Active Membership

Cambridge Center for Adult Education,  
Cambridge

Carlson, Howard F., Medford

Chapman, Mrs. E. D., Newton Center

Chappell, Arthur, Turners Falls

Coffin, Miss Harriette D., Waltham

Cosgrove, Mrs. John E., Northbridge

Court, Mrs. Nelson, Chatham

Creamer, Mrs. Charles T., Needham

Crout, William, Boston

Crowell, Mrs. George, Chatham

Cummings, Mrs. John, Marlboro

Curtis, Miss Chloe, Boston

Dailey, Mrs. Frederick B., Wellesley

Dane, Ernest B., III, Middletown, R. I.

Dedham Boy Scouts, Dedham

Dedham Camp Fire Girls, Dedham

Dedham Community House, Dedham

Dedham Girl Scouts, Dedham

Dolph, Mrs. Mary, Sharon

Donnelly, Edward B., Waltham

Duff, Mrs. Christine A., Cambridge

Dresser, Rodney, Topsfield

Durdle, Mrs. Warren E., Westwood

Ellis, Mrs. Carroll H., Marlboro

Fernow, Miss Mary Alice, Stoneham

Ferrucci, Dr. Joseph, Framingham

Finneran, John G., Newton Center

Foley, Mrs. Mason, Hingham

Fowell, Mrs. Myron W., Westwood

Frothingham, Edward O., Wayland

Fullam, Mrs. Helen H., Beverly

Gabeler, Mrs. Charles, Andover

Galbraith, Miss Margaret,

West Haven, Conn.

Gambrill, Mrs. Richard V. N.,

Peapack, N. J.

Glowacki, Mrs. William L., Winchester

Gosnell, Mrs. Kurt, Duxbury

Gregory, Thomas, Rowley  
 Grimes, Miss Ethel, Kingston  
 Gross, Mrs. Ervin, E., Jr., Lexington  
 Haley, Miss Margaret, Brookline  
 Halverson, Alfred W., Topsfield  
 Hanlon, George A., Rowley  
 Harding, Mrs. Heman A., Chatham  
 Harrington, Miss Ann M., Lunenburg  
 Hewitt, Mrs. Elizabeth, North Marshfield  
 Hines, Robert, Washington, D. C.  
 Holt, Mrs. Charles, Sterling  
 Howard, Mrs. Charles T., Hingham  
 Howe, John, Belmont  
 Hunt, Miss Lillian M., Lynn  
 Hunting and Fishing Club, Milton  
 Hurley, Mrs. Alfred J., Peabody  
 Hutchings, Mrs. Carsley W.,

North Billerica

James, Dr. Mary L., North Haven, Conn.  
 Jennings, Robert G., Newton Highlands  
 Johnson, Miss Helen A.,

West Barnstable

Kendall, Mrs. Raymond, Sterling  
 Kimpton, Sidney G., Hingham  
 King, Mrs. James P., Peabody  
 Knapp, Mrs. Ralph, Cambridge  
 Ladd, Mrs. Frederick F., Amesbury  
 Lalime, Mrs. Edmond H., Marblehead  
 Littlejohn, Mrs. Henry, Lexington  
 Lonergan, Edward W., Rockland  
 MacRae, Lewis, Rowley  
 Mainwaring, Richard, Duxbury  
 Marsden, Mrs. Howard, Marlboro  
 Maskell, Miss Louise B., Topsfield  
 Massachusetts Reformatory Library,

West Concord

Massachusetts State Prison Library,  
 Charlestown

Massachusetts Women's Reformatory  
 Library, Framingham

Matthews, David, Weymouth  
 McKillop, Mrs. Archibald, Leominster  
 Merry, P. I., Needham  
 Mighill, Mrs. Charles, Rowley  
 Mitchell, Mrs. Charles E., North Scituate  
 Moore, Mrs. Christine, Braintree  
 Moss, Miss Dorothy, New Haven, Conn.  
 Murphy, Edward J., West Roxbury  
 Murphy, Miss Elizabeth J., West Medford  
 Murphy, John Joseph, Dedham  
 Newton, Mrs. Harlan F., Newton Centre  
 North, Mrs. Robert H., Billerica  
 Noyes, Mrs. Rufus K., Cambridge  
 Oberdorfer, Mrs. Conrad, Belmont  
 Oliver, Fred, West Concord  
 Orman, Mrs. Frank, Chatham  
 Osgood, C. E., Chestnut Hill  
 Outten, Henry P., Cambridge  
 Paradise, Mrs. Forrest H., Billerica

Parker, Miss Ruth, Beverly  
 Parker, Mrs. Thomas T., Brookline  
 Partridge, John F., Jr., Canton  
 Peckham, Mrs. Howard W., Northbridge  
 Pennock, Mrs. Louise, South Braintree  
 Perry, Dave R., Milton  
 Phillips, Mrs. Shirley, Topsfield  
 Plimpton, Mrs. Henry A., Waban  
 Porter, Mrs. Ernest J., Peabody  
 Porter, Mrs. Tyler C., Lexington  
 Pratt, Mrs. Ernest F., Peabody  
 Purcell, Mrs. Edward, Cambridge  
 Rhinelander, Miss Mary F., Boston  
 Roach, William, Norfolk  
 Roberts, Stanley, Southport, Conn.  
 Rock, Mrs. Ester, Topsfield  
 Ruley, Mrs. Eugene J., Nantucket  
 Russell, Miss Marieta, Duxbury  
 Ryan, Mrs. Joseph H., Dedham  
 Sampson, Mrs. A. B., Marlboro  
 Saunders, Mrs. Raymond, Rowley  
 Savage, Mrs. Edwin, Sterling  
 Seely, Mrs. Warner, Cleveland, O.  
 Seuss, Miss Elizabeth, Marlboro  
 Sheldon, Mrs. George C., Lexington  
 Smith, Donaldson M., Topsfield  
 Smith, Frank Edwin, Arlington  
 Smith, Mrs. Roger R., Gardner  
 Spalty, Miss Helena, West Haven, Conn.  
 Stanton, Mrs. A. H., Natick  
 State Prison Colony Library, Norfolk  
 Stearns, Mrs. Richard, Billerica  
 Strout, Mrs. Eugene, Northbridge  
 Studley, Linnell E., Newton Highlands  
 Swingle, Mrs. Robert F., Aiken, S. C.  
 Sylvester, Mrs. Clarence N., Cohasset  
 Tate, Miss Sally, New York, N. Y.  
 Thomson, Mrs. G. W., Hingham  
 Towler, Mrs. Robert H., Billerica  
 Tracy, Miss Eugenia P., Foxboro  
 Trask, Mrs. Gladys, Lancaster  
 Tucker, Mrs. Paul R., Brookline  
 von Klock, Alan, Wakefield  
 Wadsworth, Oliver F., Jr.,

Huntington, N. Y.

Ward, Andrew H., Jr., Milton  
 Waterman, Mrs. Frank S., Chestnut Hill  
 Westport Audubon Society,

Westport, Conn.

Whitmore, William R., Sunderland  
 Whittier, Mrs. Florintine, Topsfield  
 Wilcox, Mrs. J. W., Lexington  
 Wilkinson, Samuel, Topsfield  
 Williams, Mrs. Draper W., Dedham  
 Williams, Henry C., Topsfield  
 Wilson, Miss Sylvia, Cambridge  
 Winter, Mrs. Alston, Northbridge  
 Woodward, Mrs. Perley E., Framingham

***Every Member Add A Member  
 And See How Fast We'll Grow!***

### Notes From Our Sanctuaries

ARCADIA. Things happen so fast in April that by month's end the rush of events leaves a blurred image. The rearranging of plantings and the addition of new materials filled many of the days, but all these activities bring nearer the day when food and cover requirements will help us realize the highest wildlife population possible for the area. But trees are painfully slow by man's measure to reach maturity, so enjoyment of the present, with an eye cocked to a future holding still brighter promise, is a motto worthy of the consideration of the naturalist and wildlife manager.

Again we are indebted to friends of Arcadia for plants valuable for wildlife and with appeal to those with an eye for natural beauty. Through the generosity of Miss Mary Pardee Allison we were able to bring to Arcadia Paul's scarlet hawthorn and two small trees that have found a place in our folk music. While the latter were being planted, a school group asked the Audubon teacher, "What's that man doing?" The "man," in turn, asked, "Are any of you Girl Scouts?" One out of several whose hands were raised was then asked, "What songs do you sing in your Scout group?" The answer the very first time was the one sought: "Way down yonder in the pawpaw patch." Thus, some day we hope some little girls from hereabouts can actually have the pleasure of "Picking up pawpaws, put them in the basket." The other tree is, of course, the American persimmon, a member of the ebony family. There is a good chance that both species will grow and thrive at Arcadia, as will the redbud, or Judastree, so beloved in our Southland for its early bloom which peeks out of the wood's edge along many a cornfield. The trees just mentioned, with the exception of the pawpaw, were incorporated in a demonstration food and cover planting, which is designed to show what can be done with an odd corner of a field difficult to cultivate properly with modern farm machinery. Included besides the trees already mentioned are red and Norway spruce, a few Austrian and Japanese pines, *Rosa rugosa*, Amur privet, and bayberry.

A timely gift of yews and rhododendrons from Gordon Barnes, of Holyoke, enabled further improvements to be made in the Hampshire County Grange Memorial Planting. Also, we are indebted to Miss Susie Shattuck, of Groton, for a crabapple which, in size and shape, seems to hold considerable promise of filling a niche not now filled by a crabapple. From Frank Modena we received several small plants of *Herculesclub*, interesting because of its doubly-compound leaves and its ability to produce mammoth clusters of fruits eaten by birds. Further additions of plants for testing have been received from the Soil Conservation Service. The Service is still looking for another "success story" to rival that of multiflora rose.

The April "Clean-up Day" was well attended by members of our Sanctuary Advisory Committee and their husbands or wives. This year we were really ambitious, though somewhat weary after moving to new locations a large hemlock and a good-sized mulberry tree. Efforts such as these drive home the point that it is so easy to move shrubs and trees during the planning stage—on paper. But the humility achieved by having to acknowledge mistakes rectifiable only by so much physical effort is worth a good deal. Those two trees had better stay alive!

Now for a quick look at the bird news for April. On the 4th a Pied-billed Grebe bobbed up in the Marsh, and the Great Blue Heron returned on the 7th.



Each evening at dusk, from the 17th to the 20th, sixty to sixty-five Canada Geese floated down to spend the night on the Sanctuary. Other waterfowl recorded were Black Duck and Mallard, Baldpate and Green-winged Teal, Wood Duck and Ring-neck, American Golden-eye, and American Merganser. For hawks we had Cooper's, Red-shouldered (nesting in the area), Broad-winged, Osprey, and Sparrow Hawk. An early Chimney Swift was noted on the 25th, a day when there must have been little insect fare in the skies. The Cliff and Barn Swallows made their first appearance on April 27, as did the House Wren and Brown Thrasher. A fine male Towhee returned to the shrub border on the 26th, and our first Savannah Sparrow to the field area on the 27th. The Vesper Sparrow arrived on the 20th, the day after our last Tree Sparrow date. As the month ended, White-throated Sparrows were singing everywhere, indicating that migration was reaching that long-awaited spring peak which, as succeeding springs roll around, lifts all of those interested in birds to new heights of pleasure.

EDWIN A. MASON

EDITOR'S NOTE: Our Arcadia Superintendent, Edwin A. Mason, was recently honored when elected President of the Northampton Rotary Club for the coming year.

**PROCTOR.** On the 23rd of March we moved into the Bradstreet Farm-house on the new Audubon Society Sanctuary at Topsfield. A light snowfall the day before had dusted the trees and fields, and the day was cloudy, but our arrival was brightened by a flock of eighteen Evening Grosbeaks perched on the white ash near the house. Painting and erecting signs, the clearing of trails, etc., have kept us from active birding, but at this date we estimate, from our notes and those of visiting birders, that over sixty species have been seen at the Sanctuary. New birdhouses were soon examined by Bluebirds, later to be heckled by Tree Swallows. Woodcock perform their aerial courtship in front of the house, and Canada Geese have landed on the big field. Many Pheasants are present. Every day new trees and shrubs are discovered, such as sweet gum, Kentucky coffee tree, etc. Visiting botanists find much to keep them busy. A splendid specimen of *Cornus mas*, or cornelian cherry, bloomed all through April within sight of the house. Ludlow Griscom and others heard three Screech Owls, a Long-eared Owl, and a Great Horned Owl the evening of April 28, as well as three Virginia Rails. The call of the Pileated Woodpecker has been heard. Deer and Raccoon have been seen.

The "Rockery" promises to be a place of beauty during the rhododendron and azalea season, and we hope to welcome many Audubon members and their friends.

ELMER P. FOYE

**MOOSE HILL.** During March it seemed that the calendar of natural history events moved along at such a pace that one could easily observe and interpret all the more important occurrences that pointed to the reawakening year. The month of April, however, with its increasing warmth and sunlight, brought so many fast-breaking developments of great beauty and interest that one wished the tempo could be slackened somewhat. And as the season approached the peak days of early May, with new avian arrivals and unfolding blossoms meeting the eye and ear on every hand, to try to encompass it all to one's complete satisfaction was a hopeless task. The hours and days were simply too short and fleeting to take in all the eventful details that make spring the most exciting time of year.

By the end of April the vanguards of the sprightly warbler clan, as well



as the Towhees, thrushes, and Oven-birds, had appeared on the Sanctuary in such numbers and with such animation that the observer almost forgot the Juncos, Tree Sparrows, and other winter residents that had so recently and unobtrusively departed. Immediately about headquarters were heard the songs and calls of Purple Finches, Bluebirds, Mourning Doves, and Song Sparrows, while the trails were vibrant with the Chickadee's two-toned *phee-bee*, the repetitive call of the Oven-bird, and the rolling drum of the Ruffed Grouse. Among the hawks, the soaring Red-shoulder was the one most commonly reported.

Flower-minded visitors likewise discovered much of interest about the woodlands, especially during the latter half of the month. The display ranged from the prostrate blossoms of the wild ginger to the high flowering of the widely-dispersed red maples. The pendent catkins of the willows and poplars appealed to many, and a few observers were very happy to become acquainted with the minute but exceptionally beautiful red stigmas crowning the squat buds of the hazelnut, *Corylus americana*. In the swampy areas where the fiddleheads of the cinnamon and interrupted ferns were slowly beginning to unwind their furry fronds, the yellow of the fragrant spicebush and the even brighter colors of the marsh marigold were especially attractive.

During April many and varied groups hiked along the Moose Hill trails and viewed the wildlife exhibits. These groups included garden clubs, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, Audubon Junior Clubs, and Audubon natural science classes from the grade schools. Most of the groups came by appointment and arranged for a conducted tour on the trails.

One of the most convincing signs of spring and the renewal of animal activity in the area was the gradual building up of the Sanctuary's collection of "live stock" through the efforts of the more youthful of our visitors. A few more days and our assemblage of local frogs, turtles, and other legitimately-collected wildlife should be quite complete. The most recent biological contribution came from a Moose Hill day camper who generously parted with his back-yard find of a White-footed or Deer Mouse and her ten-day-old clutching brood of four downy young.

ALBERT W. BUSSEWITZ

**COOK'S CANYON.** Forty wild Canada Geese winging their way northward passed over the Sanctuary on the first day of April. Though far less spectacular than the vast flocks which come to rest on Cayuga Lake, nevertheless they were a welcome omen of spring here in Barre, where our season seems a good two weeks behind that in Boston. On the same day a group of American Youth Hostellers saw two Hermit Thrushes and a flock of Fox Sparrows, and that night the Hylas, or Spring Peepers, called for the first time.

By the end of the month the Tree Swallows were hunting their nesting holes, the Chimney Swifts had returned and were twittering overhead, and an occasional Field Sparrow was heard singing in the meadow. Farther down towards the canyon the warblers were beginning to appear, led by the Myrtle and the Palm. Also nesting in a seldom visited part of the Sanctuary was a Ruffed Grouse, and though the nest was not discovered until May we feel reasonably certain that she had laid her first egg some time in the latter part of April.

With the end of April the Fish and Wildlife Service concludes its official banding year, and a report of banding activities for the preceding year must

be submitted to them. It was interesting to note, when preparing this report, that of the 330 birds of twenty species, almost one half were Purple Finches, whereas in the preceding year there had been a similar preponderance of Evening Grosbeaks. It is only natural that the great abundance of birds that are captured in the box traps are seed-eaters, especially the Song, Tree, and Chipping Sparrows, and the Juncos. The fact that fewer Black-capped Chickadees were taken than in the previous year is possibly due to the fact that large amounts of sunflower seed were used to attract the finch tribe, and the wary Chickadees scorned our traps and ate from the ground. A few of the birds which were banded, such as the Rose-breasted Grosbeak and the Catbird, were fledglings which had been raised at the Sanctuary. The most interesting records were the Pine Siskin and the Sparrow Hawk.

#### SUMMARY OF BIRD-BANDING ACTIVITIES AT COOK'S CANYON

May 1, 1950 — April 30, 1951

Species	Number Banded	Species	Number Banded
Sparrow Hawk	1	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	1
Blue Jay	16	Indigo Bunting	1
Black-capped Chickadee	8	Evening Grosbeak	2
White-breasted Nuthatch	1	Purple Finch	162
House Wren	2	Pine Siskin	1
Catbird	1	Slate-colored Junco	25
Robin	6	Tree Sparrow	26
Starling	6	Chipping Sparrow	10
Bronzed Grackle	2	White-throated Sparrow	1
Cowbird	3	Song Sparrow	55

LEON A. P. MAGEE

PLEASANT VALLEY. Hermit Thrushes were heard in full song from the cottage each night for almost a week, just before the end of April. These birds were migrants and have since vanished to the north or to the higher reaches of the Sanctuary. No bird song has quite the mystic quality of the Hermit, and no shepherd with silver flute ever produced such beautiful music. Outstanding bird songs always remind me of places and experiences that I have enjoyed in the past. When I hear a Hermit sing, I always am reminded of the summers I spent on the coast of Maine and of the rocky shores studded with spruces. The silence among those evergreens at sunset was like the hush of a great cathedral. The thrushes would mount to the tops of the spruces to pour out their cascades of notes. In such surroundings this bird song is one that will never be forgotten.

Each year I am amazed at the number of species of birds regularly seen right from the cottage. In fact, almost all of them are seen from our porch, except some of the water birds. For instance, the other day a Broad-winged Hawk perched in a locust tree not a hundred yards from the front door. In this same tree I have on several occasions seen the Pileated Woodpecker looking for insect food. Across the road the Ruffed Grouse can be heard drumming—a throbbing sound that is often not heard by the novice. On the 30th of April we saw a Turkey Vulture. This is only the sixth year that they have been observed over the Sanctuary grounds.

On the 16th of April a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker appeared and began drill-corky bark at the base of the tree could not discourage this bird, for it dug a series of little sap wells only a foot above the ground, as well as numerous ing holes in the bark of the great maple just in front of the house. The thick

others on the branches and higher up on the trunk. Once a hole is made, the bird will visit it again and again. In fact, Sapsuckers are not easily driven away and will return immediately after the intruder leaves. A blind placed beside these excavations doesn't bother the Sapsucker at all, and it will return in a matter of minutes to resume its feeding. At this time of year the sap flows copiously from the wounds, and the Chickadees know, too, that maple sap is good and come to the sap wells when their rightful owner is not about.

Last month I wrote of the Red-shouldered Hawk and some of its nesting habits as observed here. On the 22nd I found the nest of our resident pair on the Great Hemlock Trail high in a birch, not a hundred yards from where they had nested in another birch at least twice in the last five years.

On the 23rd of April, while standing on the bridge which crosses the chain of beaver ponds, I heard what sounded like the call of a young Crow. It was quite a cold morning, and I felt sure that no self-respecting young Crow would have yet hatched in this particular region. This made me all the more curious. Cutting across the trails I came out on the Lone Cedar Trail, where I spotted a pine tree from which the sounds seemed to come. Almost immediately the calls ceased, and when I came up to the tree and started to climb it, an adult Crow flopped out without a sound. The nest contained five eggs. I was surprised that this old bird would endanger the nest by attracting attention to itself, but can only assume it was attempting to call its mate up with food so that the eggs would not have to be exposed to the cold.

In the Berkshires the Annual Conservation Exhibit is the climax of the Special Course in Conservation and Natural Science given by our Audubon staff in the schools of the county. At the beginning of the second half of the school year the classes were told about the exhibit, and this year they were given a list of suggested projects from which they could choose several. These were divided into five groups — dioramas, charts, collections, nature crafts, and nature notebooks. The middle of April saw a flood of displays of all kinds and descriptions being brought through the portals of the Berkshire Museum, where the exhibit is held every year. In fact, it took the staff almost the whole of the spring vacation period to arrange and set up the exhibit. April 24 was the opening day, and more than four hundred school children, parents, teachers, principals, and superintendents came to view the many projects entered by thirty-seven different schools. It was a gala affair.

All the exhibits had a close tie-in with our lessons in the classroom. For instance, there were quite a number of dioramas showing the differences between poor and good farming practices. Nature's camouflage was illustrated by a model of a fawn lying in the shade of a forest glade, and in another case by a rabbit sitting in a field of dead grass. Several star theaters were made, to show the shape of the different constellations, and as a crank was turned the constellations appeared on the stage in quick succession. Other exhibits included mineral and bird nest collections, nature notebooks, terrariums, aquariums, birdhouses and feeders, beautiful displays of textile designs taken from nature, and a number of very fine electric naming games. The ones who get the most out of this exhibit, of course, are the boys and girls who actually make the different displays. The suggested projects require some study on the part of the students before they can begin to work up the display itself, and we feel it is a fine carry-over of our work into the day-to-day class work in the school.

ALVAH W. SANBORN

## Report Of State-Wide Bird Walks

BY RUTH P. EMERY

The State-wide Bird Walks conducted on May 5 in sixty-three cities and towns were successful as far as the stimulation of interest is concerned. Many of the leaders complained because of the early date of the walks this year, resulting in fewer birds. It did seem a little early, but as every other week end was taken by some other Audubon activity we had little choice this year.

As the *Bulletin* goes to press, fifty-four lists have been turned in, recording a total of 173 species, the same number reported in 1949. Several of the groups had sixteen or more in the party, and the group with the best attendance was the Children's Museum Bird Club, of Jamaica Plain, led by Miss Miriam Dickey, where thirty-four children and five adults were present. Once again the greatest number of species, eighty-five, was listed on the Ware trip, led by John H. Conkey. The Newburyport-Plum Island walk was a close second, with eighty-four species, Mrs. Clara deWindt leading.

In Marblehead a Whip-poor-will was flushed in the woods and was seen by most of the group. In Sterling a Mourning Dove was found nesting in a spruce tree. The Children's Museum group watched a Phoebe feeding young, and in Georgetown male and female Hooded Mergansers were seen going in and out of a nesting box put up for a Wood Duck. In Danvers a Raccoon was found sleeping in a tree. Mrs. Irwin Severance reported that in Northfield the temperature was only twenty-seven degrees.

Highlights reported included the following: Little Blue Heron (Williamsburg); thirty-five American Brant (Ipswich); one American Eider (Westport); Florida Gallinule (Egremont); Piping Plover (Menauhaut); Black-bellied Plover (Rowley); Ruddy Turnstone (Marblehead); Upland Plover (Newburyport); Spotted and Solitary Sandpipers from four different localities; Purple Sandpiper (Nahant and Westport); Pectoral Sandpiper (Newburyport); Least, Red-backed, and Semipalmated Sandpipers from Westport, Rowley, and Plum Island; Iceland Gull (Plum Island); Black-billed Cuckoo heard in Burlington; four species of Owls (Barn, Screech, Great Horned, and Barred) from Chilmark, Dover, and Ware; Ruby-throated Hummingbird (Sutton); Pileated Woodpecker (W. Becket); Wood Pewee (Princeton); Bank Swallows (W. Becket); Purple Martins (Princeton); Red-breasted Nuthatch (W. Becket, Ipswich, Stoneham, and Bedford); Winter Wren (Rockport); Carolina Wren (Westport and Edgartown); Long-billed Marsh Wren (Concord and Rowley); Short-billed Marsh Wren (Ware); Gray-checked Thrush (W. Becket); Yellow-throated Vireo (Pittsfield); Red-eyed Vireo (Princeton); Warbling Vireo (Burlington); Orange-crowned and Wilson's Warblers (Marblehead); Bobolink (Sutton); Grasshopper Sparrow (Edgartown and Ware); one very late Tree Sparrow (Norfolk).

### Remember These Dates!

June	8-10	Berkshire Campout.
June	14-27	Natural Science Workshop at Cook's Canyon.
July	1-14	Natural Science Workshop at Cook's Canyon.
July	16-28	Wildwood Natural History Camp at Cook's Canyon.
August	19	Audubon Field Trip to North Shore.
September	7-9	Cape Campout.

See notices in the *Bulletin* and August Newsletter; or write or call Audubon House.

## **The Sanctuaries of the Massachusetts Audubon Society**

### **Where They Are, And What.**

In this, the centenary year of Audubon's death and the fifty-fifth year of our Society, we invite wider use of our fine sanctuary facilities, either by the serious student of natural history or by the nature lover in search of a restful spot from which to enjoy the charm of bird song or the beauty of wild flowers.

The Massachusetts Audubon Society now owns outright seven such reservations where all wildlife is protected and fostered, scattered across the Commonwealth from the bend of Cape Cod to the Taconic Range in Berkshire County, and ranging in size from the modest four acres of our Nahant Thicket to the three square miles of our newest Proctor Sanctuary in Essex County.

Five of these sanctuaries serve as educational centers in our ever-growing work in the teaching of natural history and conservation of natural resources, as well as being demonstration grounds for the latest methods for attracting wild creatures, especially birds. All except Tern Island are freely open to the interested public.

#### **Moose Hill Sanctuary, Sharon**

Approximately two hundred and fifty acres of mixed woodlands with a small pond, only twenty-five miles from Boston. This is one of the oldest privately maintained sanctuaries in the United States. *Moose Hill* specializes in demonstrations of methods of attracting birds about the home such as by means of summer and winter feeding, bird food plantings, bird houses, and pools. There are shady trails through the grounds and a small museum at Headquarters. A day camp for natural history is conducted at *Moose Hill* each summer, and it is visited by many school classes, scout groups, etc., throughout the year.

Follow U. S. Route 1 from either Boston or Providence; Moose Hill Road turns east about one mile south of the intersection of Route 27; or follow route 27 from Brockton or Natick to near the Sharon railroad station, where signs point the way to the sanctuary.

Sanctuary Superintendent, Albert W. Bussewitz, Sharon: tel. Sharon 691.

#### **Arcadia Sanctuary, Northampton**

Three hundred acres of meadow, marsh and woodland on the Oxbow of the Connecticut River in the path of the Connecticut Valley Migration Flyway. Plantings at the Katharine Woods Memorial Pool, the Grange Memorial, and around the Headquarters provide a great variety of trees and shrubs attractive to birds. Center for the Connecticut Valley Evening Grosbeak Survey. There is a studio for research workers and a Barn Workshop for the summer day camp in natural history.

Route 10 from Northampton or Westfield; 2.6 miles south of Northampton turn east on Lovefield Street .6 miles to sanctuary road. Route 141 north from Holyoke through Easthampton to Route 10. U. S. Route 5 from Springfield to Route 141 or to Mt. Tom station and left on unmarked road to sanctuary road.

Sanctuary Superintendent, Edwin A. Mason, P.O. Easthampton R.F.D.; tel. Northampton 2946-R.



### **Pleasant Valley Sanctuary, Lenox**

Approximately one square mile of the delightful hills and valleys of western Berkshire County are included in this sanctuary, with an altitudinal range of about 750 feet. Except for the narrow trails and the plantings around Headquarters, the area is preserved in its natural wildness, and it furnishes a wide variety of native plants and animals. Reintroduced Beaver are a source of much interest.

Near the Headquarters residence is a Barn Tearoom where excellent meals are served during the summer, and this, with the Trailside Museum and the marked Nature Trails, draws many visitors attending the Berkshire Music Festival.

U. S. Route 7-20 south from Pittsfield; watch for signs about one mile north of Lenox Village leading westerly. U. S. 7 north from Great Barrington to Lenox Village where take Cliffwood Street to Pleasant Valley Road, or Route 183 through Stockbridge past "Tanglewood" where take West Mountain Road north to Cliffwood Street and as above; look for signs.

Sanctuary Superintendent, Alvah W. Sanborn, Lenox: tel. Lenox 320-W

### **Cook's Canyon Sanctuary, Barre**

Thirty-five acres, mainly coniferous plantation but including a small pond, rocky gorge, and interesting trails, not far from the Harvard Forest and Quabbin Reservoir. This sanctuary is our educational headquarters for Worcester County; site of our Natural History Workshop for youth leaders and of Wildwood Nature Camp for children; a day camp of natural history is also conducted here each summer. Headquarters buildings include dormitories for Workshop students and visiting groups. A new Conservation Workshop building has been completed and a new dining hall is under construction.

Barre Village Common lies at the intersections of Route 122 from Worcester or Orange, Route 32 from Palmer or Athol, and Route 62 from Concord and Clinton; sanctuary headquarters is on South Street about one quarter mile south from Barre Common.

Sanctuary Superintendent, Leon A. P. Magee, Barre: tel. Barre 20.

### **Proctor Wildlife Sanctuary and Annie H. Brown Reservation Topsfield, Wenham and Hamilton**

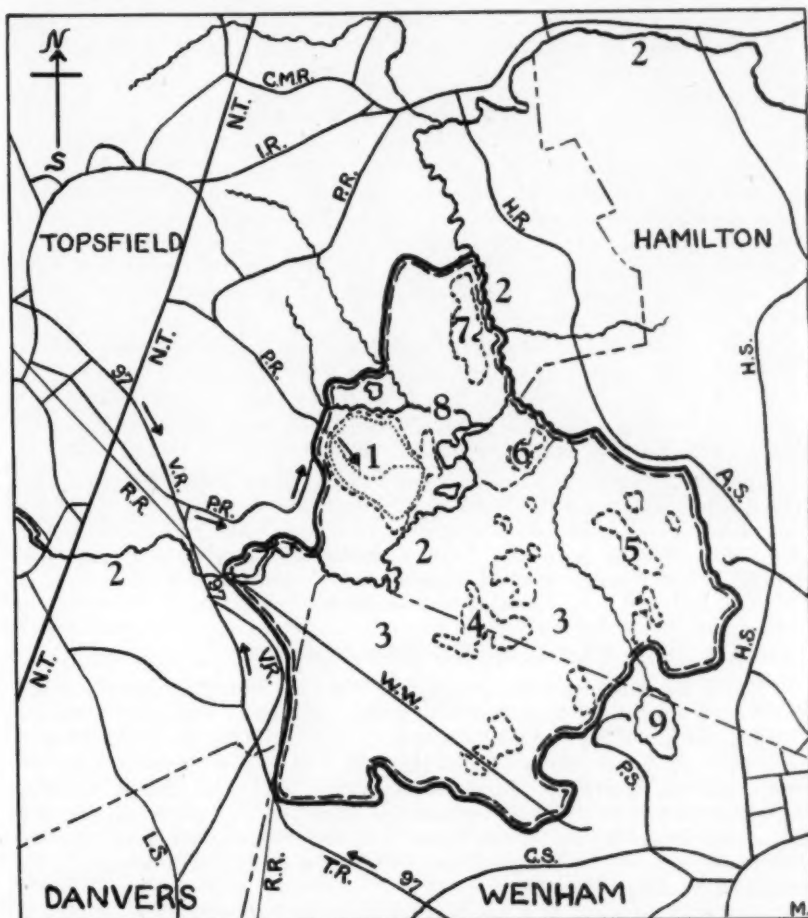
Two thousand acres, or more than three square miles, including one thousand acres of marshlands through which flows the winding Ipswich River, with several marsh islands supporting many large trees, and a great variety of native and introduced trees and shrubs which make the region unique in interest. Within easy reach of Boston and other centers of population, this sanctuary is directly on the Atlantic Flyway for migratory bird life. Our latest acquisition, the sanctuary is in process of being developed as another educational center for natural history work, and a day camp in natural history will be conducted there for children of the section.

The Newburyport Turnpike crosses the Ipswich River in Topsfield and passes the Topsfield Fair Grounds to intersection of Route 97 (High Street); turn east (right) on 97 about one half mile to first crossroad, Perkins Row; left on Perkins Row a little over one mile to stone gate posts marking entrance to sanctuary and driveway to Headquarters.

Sanctuary Superintendent, Elmer P. Foye, Topsfield: tel. Topsfield 47.



It is our earnest hope that many of our members and their friends will become acquainted with the many attractions of our new Proctor Wildlife Sanctuary and Annie H. Brown Reservation on the Ipswich River, by the use of the map printed below.



**KEY**—1, Bradstreet Hill and Headquarters. 2, Ipswich River. 3, Wenham Swamp. 4, Fowlers Island. 5, Turkey Island. 6, Pine Island. 7, Averills Island. 8, Mile Brook. 9, Pleasant Pond.

N.T., Newburyport Turnpike. R.R., Boston & Maine Railroad. P.R., Perkins Row, Topsfield. C.M.R., Camp Meeting Rd., Topsfield. I.R., Ipswich Rd., Topsfield. H.R., Hamilton Rd., Topsfield. V.R., Valley Rd., and High St., Topsfield. L.S., Locust St., Danvers. T.R., Topsfield Rd., Wenham. C.S., Cherry St., Wenham. P.S., Pleasant St., Wenham. H.S., Highland St., Hamilton. A.S., Asbury St., Hamilton. W.W., Water Works Canal.

### Nahant Thicket, Nahant

The four acres of this tiny sanctuary serve as a landing oasis for hordes of land birds migrating along the Atlantic Flyway in spring and fall; a large variety of species have been observed here over the years, including many New England rarities. Trails provide easy ingress for observers. *Please protect the attractiveness of this unguarded reservation.*

Take Parkway from Lynn to Nahant; follow Nahant Street to Wharf Street and turn south to sanctuary.

### Tern Island, Chatham

The largest nesting colony of Common Terns along the Atlantic seaboard, with lesser numbers of breeding Roseate and Arctic Terns; many of the interesting shore birds and waterfowl typical of the region may be observed in their season on the sandy beaches and tidal flats and in the shallow waters near Tern Island. Data of great importance relating to tern behaviorism has been produced at Tern Island by the Austin Ornithological Research Station, of North Eastham, from which *permission must be obtained before visiting Tern Island.*

Tern Island can be viewed from Route 28 near Chatham Bars Inn in Chatham, but is not open to the public, except as above.

Further information concerning any of the above sanctuaries may be obtained by writing to any of the sanctuary superintendents or to Audubon House, 155 Newbury Street, Boston 16, Massachusetts.

If you are not already enrolled as a member of the Massachusetts Audubon Society, why not JOIN NOW and become an active supporter of its extensive Conservation In Action program and of its valuable educational work? An Active Member pays only \$3.00 annually, and receives our illustrated BULLETIN and many other advantages.

---

### "Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary"

This is the title of a neat sixteen-page brochure describing our Connecticut Valley sanctuary, published with funds generously contributed by the Allen Bird Club of Springfield, as forecast in our March BULLETIN. Printed on a pale blue paper that is easy on the eyes, it is most attractively prepared and excellently illustrated. It tells briefly where, why, and what is Arcadia, describes the Sanctuary's past, present, and future, and the parts that you and I can take in developing its usefulness. The illustrations include appropriate half tones, a map of the Sanctuary property, and a sketch and floor plan of the proposed Trailside Museum.

And it can be obtained for only fifteen cents, at Arcadia or Audubon House, and your money will be reinvested in another worth-while project for Arcadia.

---

### Coming Events at the Berkshire Museum

Pittsfield, Massachusetts

#### JUNE

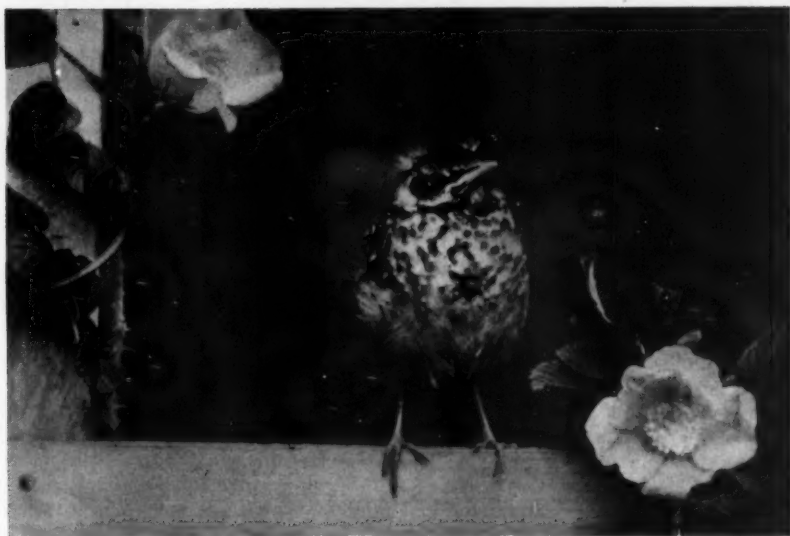
June 1-30. Annual Exhibition. Berkshire Museum Camera Club.

June 1-30. Exhibition. Boston Society of Independent Artists.

June 9-10. Annual Campout of Massachusetts Audubon Society.

## I Raised A Robin

BY MARJORIE ELLMS



EMILY GOODE

I have often noticed and pitied the thin, worn-looking Robins at the end of a summer of raising families in my trees. I know how they feel now, for I have just raised one of their babies and I never worked harder in my life!

I found him on my garden walk one June day, the sole survivor of a foray by my cat, Orphan Annie. He was obviously in a state of shock but apparently whole and uninjured, and after locking Annie in the cellar I placed him gently in a strawberry box filled with soft dry grass and put the box in the tree where he had been born, hoping that his parents would find him easily. I watched carefully all that day, but they did not go to him, so toward evening I brought him into the shelter of my warm kitchen, away from the chill and hazards of the country night. His featherless, limp little body stirred to my touch, and the yellow bill opened wide. I knew what I had to do and I began to dig worms, shuddering as I dug, and jamming them down his throat with my eyebrow tweezers. I also gave him bits of oatmeal mixed with milk, for want of something more appropriate.

I did not think he would live, but the next day he appeared stronger and more lively. I laid in a fresh supply of *kleenex*, for there were always droppings immediately after each feeding. I was worried until I was told that this instantaneous elimination was quite routine. The third day I telephoned to the Massachusetts Audubon Society office for instructions on his care. As a result I abandoned oatmeal and fed him boiled egg yolk, plus worms, plus raw hamburger, plus chopped-up greens, plus fruits — strawberries, melon, peaches, apple, and raisins. Later he had peanut butter as well. Occasionally I gave him sips of water, but he never wanted much. He ate everything with

enthusiasm, and I undertook to feed him every hour or oftener all day long! I found small fry to help with the worm-digging and "robin-sitting," and I cancelled engagements because of him, always remembering that he probably needed to eat nearly his own weight every day while he was growing so fast.

I gave him the use of a small back room, and here in his strawberry box in a sunny window he spent his first ten days or so, the door carefully closed to exclude Orphan Annie. I spent all the time I could with him, fascinated by the phases of his rapid development: the day he first stood up strongly on his spindly legs and flapped his ridiculous wings; his gradual feathering out; his wing exercises preparatory to short flights from his box (sometimes ending in flops on the floor); later, his first sudden long flight from my wrist to a high tree out on the lawn; his first bath (he knew exactly how to take one without being told, and he sometimes took two a day, looking afterward like an old-time country parson caught in the rain). As soon as he could fly adequately, I transferred him to our screened-in porch, to give him the illusion of freedom. I gave him a swinging basket to sleep in, a pan of water for baths, and a tray of dirt for scratching. But I noticed that he ate quantities of the dirt right after eating. This indicated a diet deficiency, and I began rolling his food lightly in the dirt before giving it to him. That ended the plain-dirt-eating. Then I began taking him outdoors with me, and he would pick up ants and bugs, but he never learned to dig worms. If one rose up in front of him, fine; but he preferred to watch me dig them, and then, mouth wide open, he permitted me to feed him. Sometimes toward the end of day, after feeding, I would put my hand over him and he would cuddle down under it, softly cheeping. Often when I removed my hand, he would be asleep.

I loved the way he always greeted me — with an imperious *cheep!* and fluttering wings and wide-open bill. Often he flew directly at me, lighting on my shoulder or head. Once he spent most of an evening resting quietly on my head while I walked about or sat. (I know what you are thinking; he didn't!) He became gradually more selective about his food, preferring ham-burg to worms, spinach to lettuce, and strawberries to other fruit. He indicated his likes and dislikes by decided little shakes of his head.

On June 20, with the thought that he was ready for freedom, I released him on an isolated hilltop in Bolton, Massachusetts, near the home of a bird-loving couple who had many feeding stations but no cats. Robin would have nothing to do with them and spent his first night high up in an elm tree with a chill rain falling. Next morning it was easy for them to entice a cold, wet, bedraggled and hungry little bird into their house. Then came a disturbed telephone call: "We don't know any more about feeding a bird than a pig does about side pockets. What shall we do?" They had tried raw egg, and Robin had promptly sprayed it back into his hostess's hair. As a result, I brought him home again, and he lived on the porch for some ten days more, growing apace, and exhibiting friendliness to all his visitors.

Shortly, however, I noticed restlessness in him, and occasional flights against the screen as though "wanting out." So I began releasing him each morning after feeding him and calling him in at night. I watched his activities during the day as best I could. It seemed to me that he mostly sat around trees, eating berries and paying little heed to other birds or they to him. He would fly low to me when I went to call him. But the fourth day he did not come to my call, and I have not seen him since. I can only hope that he is safe and that some day he will come again to greet me.

## Notes On Some Birds Of Jamaica

BY DR. WILLIAM B. BARTLETT

It was my good fortune to spend the first three weeks of February, 1951, in Jamaica and to stay for two of these weeks in a place where I had an excellent opportunity to observe birds.

All tourist travel to Jamaica begins at the Myrtle Bank Hotel in Kingston. Here from the veranda on the waterfront one may see Frigate-birds soaring over the harbor. In the hotel garden the Mockingbird sings, and as you relax on the veranda you get your introduction to a very common Jamaican bird, the Black-faced Grassquit (*Tiaris bicolor*). It is a small finch about the size of our Chipping Sparrow and is quite tame as it hops about the floor looking for crumbs. The song is a thin wheeze, not unlike our Savannah Sparrow. Incidentally, I saw no sparrows of any kind on the island, not even an English Sparrow. However, some of the family, such as the Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, and Dickcissel, summering in the States, have been found in winter in Jamaica.

After a tour of the Island we settled down for two weeks at the Manor House Hotel at Constant Spring. This is a delightful spot about six miles from Kingston, with many fine trees and beautiful flowers. It is adjacent to the only eighteen-hole golf course on the Island, and the combination of lush foliage, flowers, and openness combine to make it an ideal spot for bird-watching.

The winter birds of Jamaica may be considered under three groups: (1) species peculiar to Jamaica and the West Indies; (2) birds found also at this time in Florida and the southern United States; and (3) migrants such as northern warblers that spend the winter in the West Indies.

Of the birds peculiar to Jamaica, the most striking is the hummingbird known as Streamer-tail, or Doctor Bird, (*Trochilus polytmus*). The male has an emerald-green body, a bright red bill, and two black tail feathers five or six inches long that make a whirring noise when he flies. The female is green above, white below, and lacks the elongated tail feathers. These birds are belligerent and often chase other birds considerably larger than themselves in true hummingbird fashion. There are two other hummers that are commonly seen, the Jamaica Mango (*Anthracothorax mango*) and the Vervain (*Mellisuga minima*). The Vervain is only a trifle larger than the Bee Hummingbird of Cuba, (*Mellisuga helenae*) which is the smallest bird in the world.

Except for the Mockingbird, the noisiest bird found here is the Smooth-billed Ani (*Crotophaga ani*), of crossword puzzle fame and occasionally nesting in south Florida. In Jamaica the Ani is known as the Savanna Blackbird. Its habits seem gracklelike, but it is clumsy-looking in flight, with the heavy bill seeming to overbalance the long tail.

There are several birds called "quits." In addition to the Black-faced Grassquit already mentioned, the tiny Yellow-faced Grassquit (*Tiaris olivacea*) is very common in the country. The male is grayish green above, with a yellow throat, a black patch on the chest, and a yellow stripe through the eye. These "quits" are finches. There are also several "quits" that belong to the family of Honey Creepers. The commonest is the Bananaquit (*Coereba flaveola*), a small black and yellow bird with conspicuous white superciliary



stripes and a strongly curved bill. There is also the Orangequit (*Euneornis campestris*), named for its fondness for oranges. The male is a beautiful shade of blue, with a chestnut throat and black lores. The Honey Creepers are found about fruit trees and in the flower gardens, since they feed on nectar and fruit juices as well as insects.

Two other native birds deserve special mention: the Jamaican Tody (*Todus todus*) and the White-chinned Thrush (*Turdus aurantius*). The Tody is a small green bird with a bright red throat and a long bill. It sits quietly in a tree and is difficult to see until it darts out like a flycatcher to seize an insect. It nests in holes in a stream bank like the Kingfisher, to which it is fairly closely related. It is called "Robin" in Jamaica, but do not ask me why. The White-chinned Thrush is somewhat larger than the American Robin, grayish brown above, light below, with a white spot on the wing, a white chin, and bill, feet, and iris orange. Abundant and widespread, with northern visitors it takes the place of our Robin, though it is more a bird of the woodland edge than the open lawn.

There was a Spanish machette tree at the foot of the garden, and here it was possible to find a Jamaican Oriole (*Icterus leucopteryx*) almost any time of day. The Jamaican Oriole is slightly larger than our Baltimore Oriole and more greenish yellow than orange. A black face and chest and large white patches on the wings make the male conspicuous, as does the whistled call note.

There are swifts found in Jamaica, the most common being the Antillean Palm Swift (*Tachornis phoenicobia*), a small bird, only four to four and a half inches long, sooty black above, with a white patch on the lower back, the under parts white with a dark breast band. They nest in colonies in the palm trees. Besides the Grassquits already mentioned, I saw only two other finches, the Yellow-backed Finch (*Loxipasser anoxanthus*), and the Saffron Finch (*Sicalis flaveola*). The latter, a yellow bird with orange about the face and throat, was introduced some years ago from South America and is now quite common in open cultivated country. The only flycatcher I saw was the Loggerhead (*Tolmarchus caudifasciatus*), which looks much like a Gray Kingbird but is larger and darker.

The group of birds I saw in Jamaica that are also present in Florida may be passed over quickly. The Turkey Buzzard is very common and is called John Crow by the natives. The only real Crow (*Corvus jamaicensis*) is found in the more hilly, less accessible parts of the island. Mockingbirds are abundant, Ground Doves plentiful, and herons and egrets are found along the streams.

Finally we come to the northern warblers wintering in Jamaica. They seemed much tamer than with us but were not singing at this season of the year. The Myrtle Warbler was everywhere, but I did not find the Palm Warbler as common as in Florida in February. Redstarts sat on the veranda railing, and Prairie Warblers were frequently seen along the roadsides. One of the guests at the Hotel who is an enthusiastic bird-watcher had placed an empty sardine can under a slowly dripping faucet under a huge guango tree in the hotel garden. On the afternoon of February 20, between four o'clock and 4:45, I saw the following warblers at this improvised bird bath: Cape May, Worm-eating, Black-throated Blue, Black and White, Yellow-throated, and Parula, as well as Yellow-throat and Redstart. Most of the time an Oven-bird stalked around looking things over, for all the world like a

policeman keeping the bathers in order. Other birds also came to bathe and drink, Bananaquits by the dozen, an occasional Streamer-tail, Mockingbirds, and White-chinned Thrushes. Surely this experience alone was worth a trip to Jamaica. But when you go, be sure to take with you the *Field Guide to Birds of the West Indies*, by James Bond. (We carry this book regularly at Audubon's Store — Ed.)

## A Hint for Butterfly Collectors

BY FRANCIS E. PARK\*

From my earliest childhood I have been an enthusiastic collector of butterflies and moths, but now after a lapse of more than seventy years not a vestige of my earlier collections remains. As I grew older I tried various methods of preserving my specimens, abandoning them one after another. The method I now employ, and describe below, is especially applicable to the collections of the amateur.

The outfit required for mounting moths and butterflies by this method includes a pair of fine-pointed sharp scissors; a light fine-pointed forceps; a small bottle of Canada balsam, another of carbon tetrachloride; a number of sheets of thin transparent celluloid, cellophane, or similar plastic cut in different sizes, the larger number two inches, half as many four inches, and a few six inches square; colored pencils, black, red, yellow, green, and several shades of brown; a spool of Scotch tape; a few wooden applicators such as doctors use for throat swabs; and some pieces of white paper the size of the celluloid squares. Thus equipped and having secured a suitable butterfly or moth, we are ready to undertake our first mount.

First we draw a rough outline of our specimen with its wings outspread, to serve as a guide in placing the wings correctly. Next we grasp the insect by the thorax and carefully snip off the antennae as close as possible to the head, and lay them on a piece of white paper. Then we pick off the legs and place them with the antennae. After this the wings are cut off close to the body. Now we lay the celluloid (or cellophane, etc.) on the paper on which we drew the outline of the insect in such a position that the outline comes in the center of the sheet. Now we dip our wooden applicator in the bottle of Canada balsam, which has already been diluted with carbon tetrachloride in the proportion of one teaspoon of the latter to an ounce of balsam. As we withdraw the applicator, we wipe it against the mouth of the bottle to remove most of the balsam and touch the end lightly on the celluloid, just over the place where the wings will come, using the drawing underneath as a guide. We enlarge the spot by spreading the balsam with the end of the applicator until it is the size of the lower wing. We wait about a minute for the balsam to harden a little, for if it is too soft it will soak into the wing and ruin the specimen. Now we grasp a lower wing by its upper edge, right side up, and carefully drag it into position, using the drawing as a guide. (The idea of dragging it is to open up the fold on the lower wing, and this method is only needed in the smaller moths. A butterfly wing can be placed in position directly.) Next we put a small drop of balsam just above the other and arrange the upper wing similarly. The other side is now arranged in the

\*Doctor Park's method of mounting butterflies and moths has appealed so strongly to our staff of teachers that we pass on this information to our readers. The Editors.

same way. Next we place four tiny drops of balsam directly below the wings and drop the three legs and the antenna of one side onto these drops. Lastly, —we lay another square of celluloid accurately over the first, and fasten the four corners with Scotch tape.

On a piece of white paper we copy the body as accurately as we can, using our colored pencils, and draw in the antennae. We lay the celluloid square over the paper so as to have the body come in its proper relation to the wings. We trim the paper to the size of the celluloid, fasten them together at the top corners, and our specimen is finished and ready to paste on a page of our scrap book.

The advantages of this method are safety and durability, freedom from fading, and facility of examination, as the celluloid can be lifted to see the underside of the wings, and all data can be written on the underside of the paper. The antennae and the legs can be easily examined with a magnifying glass. Finally, the entire collection can be contained in a few large scrap books, much like a stamp or pressed leaves collection, and it will remain in perfect condition for an indefinite period of time.

### Raindrops

BY BARBARA BURN, Grade Six, Weston Grammar School

(The dependence of all life upon water had been studied in the Audubon lesson that week.)

Every little raindrop that falls from the sky,  
Is sure to mean something, I'm not sure why.  
It may mean a violet, or some little flower,  
Of all the raindrops that fall in a shower.  
  
It may mean a monkey or chimp in the zoo,  
It may mean a person like me or like you;  
One may mean a sparrow or some little bird;  
One may mean something of which we've not heard.  
  
So maybe you hate rain and things like it too,  
But one little raindrop might have meant YOU!



### *The Bird Lecture of the Year!*

#### AUDUBON'S AMERICA

New hour-long program of superb motion pictures in color, a memorial to John James Audubon, America's great pioneer bird painter and ornithologist. Commentary by an Audubon Society staff lecturer. Moderate fee. Circular.

**Massachusetts  
Audubon Society**

155 Newbury St.

Boston 16, Mass.

## Classroom Use Of Live Subjects Calls For Good Judgment

BY EMILY GOODE

*Photographs by the Author.*



"Beauty,"

room and to hear the *Oh's* and *Ah's* as the children eye the carrying cage and wait to see the "live wild animal." It is also fun, though more work, to make a lesson thrilling and stimulating with no live animals as visual aids in teaching. Programs on soils, rocks, plants, or weather can all be made attractive and interesting if handled well.

Whether the use of live animals in class is always wise may be questioned. There is always involved the absolute necessity of careful explanation to prevent misunderstanding. Recently I carried Beauty, a Red-shouldered Hawk, to some of my classes. There was always an excited reaction and the often repeated question, "Where could I get one for a pet?" Of course the children were told the laws concerning these protected "birds of prey." They were also told that had we not obtained possession of this bird after its wing had been injured it would have been destroyed. However, there still remained the question whether the fact that here was a live leashed hawk in captivity made more impression on the young minds than the explanation of the reason for its presence. Beauty's injured wing had, happily, completely healed, but I wanted to be sure that I was not breaking a rule I made early in my teaching days, never to use an unhappy animal in my classes. The children in this instance did have a rare opportunity for close view and study of a much maligned and misunderstood species, one that ordinarily would be known only to them through pictures or as a distant soaring speck high in the sky overhead. And its presence in the classroom made the points we wish to bring out about its life and economic value much more vivid than mere talking would have done.

The methods of teaching the conservation courses of the Massachusetts Audubon Society are undoubtedly as varied as the personalities of the teachers. However, it is agreed that the aim is to give the child not only an interest in nature, but a conservation attitude toward nature and the latter is the more important of the two. To interest the child is easy, but it is also far too easy to leave with him the impression that all of nature is a toy with which to play as his whim may indicate.

Bringing live creatures into the classroom is desirable to arouse interest, but the demonstrating must be done most carefully. We should beware of making the animal do the teacher's work!

It is pleasant to enter a class-



**James Armstrong and Joseph Goodwin of the Callahan School, Norwood, and some Visual Aids.**

I have had many pleasant experiences in using small birds in my classes. The fact that the birds were soon to be released was always mentioned and also that we never caught birds for exhibition purposes; our subjects were invariably ones which had been brought to the Audubon Society for care after an injury or for some similar reason. It was explained that permits to keep such protected birds are granted only to adults, for educational or scientific purposes. The tremendous amount of food required, especially for young rapidly growing birds, and the difficulty in obtaining proper foods is always stressed. Tam, a male Scarlet Tanager, who also appeared on television, obviously enjoyed his school visits. He demonstrated not only his beauty and song, but his extraordinary appetite for insects. A young Screech Owl, a young Blue Jay, and an adult House Sparrow are other birds which I have used successfully in teaching bird adaptations.

Dr. Anna Comstock suggested in her *Handbook of Nature Study* that a cat and a dog be used in teaching about mammals. I once asked a room teacher to bring her well-trained cat to class and I brought my equally well-trained Spitz-terrier, Jolly Goode. It is a credit to their upbringing that no blood was shed, but the cat spat and hissed throughout the lesson, and Jolly cast baleful looks and growled swearwords which I had never taught him. The children, I fear, were more amused than instructed. However, I frequently use a dog and either a mouse, a hamster, or a squirrel, to demonstrate the adaptations of carnivore and herbivore, the hunter and the hunted.

Needles, a Porcupine now resident at Moose Hill Wildlife Sanctuary, and Alby, a Galapagos Tortoise owned by Douglas Sands, are successful visual



aids, for both have placid dispositions and both eat with enthusiasm all day long. The children will not quickly forget the sound of Needles crunching an apple and spitting out the skin!

Live snakes are essential to a first-class lesson on reptiles. No words can describe the grace and beauty of these much persecuted creatures. It is a joy to see the children shed their prejudices when they learn for the first time that a snake is not slimy and that its tongue is not a "stinger." It is to be wished that all classroom teachers might be as receptive as most children!

Whenever possible, taking the class out-of-doors to see animals in their native habitats is preferable to taking the animals inside to the children, but, unfortunately, with many animals, especially the more timid and secretive or those whose activities are largely nocturnal, this is not always practical. Insects, spiders, birds, toads, or frogs, and often salamanders, can be observed readily on outdoor lessons. On such trips I am constantly reminding the children to *look but not touch*. The universal urge when one sees an animal seems to be—to catch it and take it home. We should always stress the fact that *observation* is the important part of nature study. It is the teacher's function to impress on the child that animals are not toys, but living creatures who have a definite part to play in maintaining the eternal balance of nature.

When a child lifts a stone, looks at a salamander, and then carefully replaces the stone, or when he catches a snake to show the other members of the class, then releases it unharmed, he has learned an important lesson in conservation. Let us always set the example of using animals constructively for instruction, never merely to make a sensation. Children will often copy what they see their elders doing, when they might not pay any heed to what we ask them to do.

---

### As Others See Us

In the April, 1951, issue of the *Audubon Warbler*, the interesting bulletin of the Oregon Audubon Society, there is an article entitled "An Oregonian Visits the Centennial Exhibit," by Norbert Leupold. We take pleasure in quoting parts.

"When a 'birder' travels, he usually finds something of interest en route. . . . In Boston, it was a visit to the headquarters of the Massachusetts Audubon Society. Located on a busy street in downtown Boston, an attractive window display which is changed monthly attracts the attention of people passing on the street. Inside on display and for sale are attractive gifts,—jewelry, bird food, bird houses, and books, all with something of wildlife as their subject. Numerous pamphlets telling of the Society and its activities are free for anyone who wishes to take one. A charming young woman on the staff of the Society spent the better part of an hour telling me of the Society and its activities. . . .

"Some of the things that I remember being told are that their membership is over 7,000, and that they have nineteen nature teachers working in the schools of Massachusetts. . . . Six sanctuaries in various parts of the State are maintained and a fine magazine is published monthly. . . . Altogether, I was tremendously impressed with the Massachusetts Audubon Society. . . ."

At present we have twenty-five members in the three Pacific Coast States. We would welcome many more.

### More Equipment is Needed at the Proctor Sanctuary

The Sanctuary Committee is very appreciative of the gifts toward furnishing our new Proctor Sanctuary, the result of our appeal in the May *Bulletin*, but more donations are still needed. Furnishings for rooms, in full or in part, will make possible the efficient operation of a Sanctuary office, housing for teachers and guests, and day camp facilities. Funds for the purchase of needed articles will be most welcome, or gifts of articles still in good usable condition, but which you no longer need and which you are willing to donate toward the attainment of our plans to use the Proctor Sanctuary as an educational headquarters. This is an excellent opportunity for members and friends of the Massachusetts Audubon Society to establish small memorials similar to those which have been provided at other Audubon properties, and the Sanctuary Committee will be glad to discuss its development plans with any interested persons. Immediate needs include the following, but many other articles will be most acceptable.

Sanctuary Office (enclosed porch) and Entrance Hallway

Rugs, size 5 x 7 (maximum).

Side Chairs

Folding Chairs for Group Meetings

Four-drawer Steel Letter File

Table

Cabinet for the Dyke Bird Skin Collection (large birds)

Teachers' Apartments and Guest House

Single Beds and Mattresses

Dressers, Tables, Chairs, Rugs

Natural History Books for Reference Library

Canoes for River and Marsh Investigations

Bird Feeders, Birdhouses, Bird Baths

Small Tractor to aid in Maintenance of Grounds

Brush Hooks and Pruning Shears

---

### "Personally Conducted Tours"

#### In the Beautiful Berkshires

On four Saturdays in July and August the Berkshire Museum in Pittsfield will sponsor its fifth annual Berkshire Bus Tours, under the leadership of Bartlett Hendricks, Science Curator. Outings will leave the Museum at 10:15 A. M. and return at 5:00 P. M., visiting places of scenic and historic interest. On the first trip, July 28, the group will travel through the beautiful Alford Valley and follow back roads to South Egremont, where lunch will be served at the Egremont Tavern, built in 1730. In the afternoon there will be a guided tour of Bartholomew's Cobble at Ashley Falls, and the return trip will be made by way of New Marlboro, the Farmington River, and Tyringham Valley.

On August 4 there will be guided trips through the Berkshire Garden Center and a portion of the Pleasant Valley Sanctuary, with lunch at the Sanctuary's Barn Tearoom. In the afternoon the trip will continue through Monterey, Otis, over Jacob's Ladder, and along the Skyline Drive to Middlefield.

The trip scheduled for August 11 will lead to Northampton after visiting

Worthington and the Knightville Dam Flood Control Project. After lunch at Wiggins' Old Tavern, the party will see the Old Time Country Store and Historical Exhibits, and will then spend an hour at Look Park, where there will be time for a ride on the miniature train or a swim in the big pool. The return will be over the Berkshire Trail.

On the final trip, August 18, the bus will travel the full length of the Mohawk Trail. There will be a guided tour of world-famous Mount Hope Farm. Lunch will be at the Williams Inn in Williamstown. On this trip the party will see two covered bridges and the unique "Cheshire Cheese" monument.

Reservations for these outings should be made in advance. A schedule can be obtained from the Berkshire Museum, Pittsfield.

### Audubon Field Trips

SUNDAY, AUGUST 19. To North Shore and Plum Island for shore birds. Chartered bus will leave Audubon House, 155 Newbury Street, Boston, at 8:15 A. M. (D. S. T.), returning to Audubon House at 7:00 P. M. Bring lunch. Fare and guide fee, \$2.75. Fee for those using private cars and following bus, 75 cents. Reservations should be made a week in advance. Cancellations cannot be accepted after noon on Friday, August 17. Leaders: Mr. and Mrs. Henry Halberg and Bennett Keenan.

SEPTEMBER 7-9. CAPE COD CAMPOUT. Registration fee is \$10.00 and includes a trip to Nauset and the Austin Ornithological Station and a sea trip (weather permitting). Lunches will be provided for both days. Early registration is recommended. See August Newsletter for full details.

### To Err is Human (but Humiliating)

The Associate Editor wishes to apologize to John Templeman Coolidge for the inexcusable blunder in giving his name incorrectly in the May *Bulletin*. A great many people have stopped to admire and to discuss the beautifully carved and colored bird models which Mr. Coolidge so kindly loaned to the Massachusetts Audubon Society and which have been on exhibition in our windows at 155 Newbury Street throughout May. The exhibition has given pleasure to a large number of people, members and non-members alike.

Our attention has also been called to an error in the April issue, where, on pages 140 and 141, Nantucket is given as the place where the Manx Shearwater was found dead in September, 1950, by Dr. and Mrs. J. H. Ludwig, Jr. The bird was found on Martha's Vineyard, as described in detail in the *March Bulletin*.

### Brookline Bird Club Trips

June 2, afternoon. North Reading. Mrs. Blanchard, North Reading 413-2.

June 9, all day. Beverly and Vicinity. Mr. Jameson, Beverly 1239-R. Afternoon, North Lexington. Miss Lawson, CApitol 7-5618.

June 16, all day. Concord. U. S. Wild Life Refuge. Mr. O'Gorman, KIrkland 7-5797. Afternoon, Concord. U. S. Wild Life Refuge. Mr. Taylor, COpley 7-0067.

June 23, all day. Bedford to Carlisle. Miss Barry, MElose 4-5888. Afternoon, Monseratt. Mr. Jameson, Beverly 1239-R.

June 30-July 1. Week-end trip to Mount Greylock. Mr. Little, WAltham 5-4295-J. Tuesday evening walks throughout June. Schedule at Audubon House.

The Saturday walks, and the Tuesday evening walks as well, will be continued through July and August. If you are interested, send an addressed postal for each walk concerning which you wish to be notified as follows: For July, to Miss Alice E. Hanson, 51 Park Drive, Boston 15; for August to Mrs. Eber Heston, 29 Torrey Street, Reading.

## BOOKS — — BOOKS — — BOOKS

We offer the best and latest books on Nature Lore, Natural Science, and Conservation, and Field Guides to all branches of Natural History, including all books reviewed in the *Bulletin*. A fine assortment for Young and Old, always on display and for sale at AUDUBON HOUSE, 155 Newbury Street, Boston 16.

Members of the Massachusetts Audubon Society are entitled to a discount of ten per cent on most books (no discount if marked \*).

### NEW BOOKS FOR THE NATURE LOVER AND NATURALIST

*Birds of Newfoundland .....	\$6.00	*A Field Guide to the Butterflies .....	\$3.75
Harold S. Peters and Thomas D. Burleigh. Illustrated by R. T. Peterson.		Alexander B. Klots. 247 paintings, 232 Photos.	
Growing Woodland Plants .....	4.00	*The Sea Around Us .....	3.50
Clarence and Eleanor G. Birdseye.		Rachel L. Carson.	
*Native Ferns .....	1.00	There's Always Adventure .....	4.00
Virginia S. Eifert and Bruce Metcalfe.		Grace E. Barstow Murphy. (Mrs. Robert Cushman Murphy).	
*Audubon Bird Carving Book .. 3.50			
John L. Lacey.			

### POCKET SIZE FIELD GUIDES

Audubon Water Bird Guide (just published) .....	\$3.50	Audubon Bird Guide (Land Birds) .....	\$3.00
Richard H. Pough. Every species in color		Richard H. Pough. Every species in color	
A Field Guide to the Birds (Eastern N. A.) .....	3.50	A Field Guide to Western Birds .....	3.50
Roger Tory Peterson.		Roger Tory Peterson.	
Traveler's Guide to Wayside Wild Flowers .....	3.00	Guide to Bird Songs (New and Revised) .....	3.00
Kathryn S. Taylor.		Aretas A. Saunders.	
Field Guide of American Wild Flowers .....	3.95	Field Guide of Western Wild Flowers .....	3.95
F. Schuyler Mathews.		Margaret Armstrong.	
Field Book of Insects .....	3.95	Field Book of the Skies .....	3.95
Frank E. Lutz.		W. T. Olcott and E. W. Putnam.	
Field Book of Snakes .....	3.95	Field Book of Seashore Life ....	6.00
K. P. Schmidt and D. D. Davis.		Roy Waldo Miner.	
Wild Flower Guide .....	3.00	The Insect Guide .....	3.00
Edgar T. Wherry		Ralph B. Swain.	

### Reviews of Recent Acquisitions

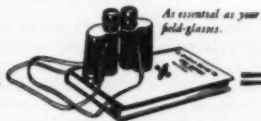
**GREAT AMERICAN NATURE WRITING.** By Joseph Wood Krutch. William Sloan Associates, New York, N. Y. 1950. 444 pages. \$5.00.

This is an interesting anthology of nature writings, but one wonders just why certain of the articles are included under the title of the book. Most of the authors were citizens of the United States, two were Canadians, one, Ernest Thompson Seton, was an Englishman who lived in America most of his life, while G. Murray Levick is also an Englishman whose subject is "Antarctic Penguins," which seems to be stretching "American Nature Writing" pretty far. Mr. Krutch goes to great length in explaining *why* he made the selections he did, however, using eighty-six pages as a Prologue, and also adding another score of pages as his introductions to the separate divisions of the book.

The book is divided into selections under the headings "Thoreau and the Thoreauists," "Escape from the Commonplace," "Lives of the Hunted," "Two Legs Too Many," "Majesty of the Inanimate," and "Mystery of Creation." And the authors range from Thoreau and Muir and Burroughs to Mark Twain and Will Cuppy! And while they are all interesting in one way or another, I can't for the life of me see why some of them are classed as "Great." Read the book and see if you can do better than I. JOHN B. MAY

**GROWING WOODLAND PLANTS.** By Clarence and Eleanor G. Birdseye. Oxford University Press. New York. 1951. xii, 223 pages. Colored frontispiece, numerous line drawings. \$4.00.

Many years ago, when I was a small boy in one of the Boston suburbs, I often brought home from my woods-wanderings and bogs-trottings specimens of wild flowers in bloom which I had perhaps found for the first time, and carefully dug up with a ball of brown leaf-mold, to be passed over to my older sister with the green thumb, who planted them and cared for them wisely and tenderly. And many of these transplanted wildlings grew and multiplied, hepaticas and blood-roots, violets blue and white and yellow, red columbines and pale corydalis, and many others. But some of them like the dainty arbutus, the pink moccasinflower, and the fringed gentian, never seemed to adapt themselves to our shady rockery and promptly died, or at best persisted for a year or two before disappearing completely. It was years before we began to hear about cultural requirements, acidophilous plants, and limestone or granite soil derivatives.



### A FIELD GUIDE TO THE BIRDS

By Roger Tory Peterson

This book has been acclaimed as "the Bible of ornithologists". \$3.50

AND IN THIS STANDARD SERIES,

### A FIELD GUIDE TO THE BUTTERFLIES

By Alexander B. Klots \$3.75

### A FIELD GUIDE TO THE SHELLS

By Percy A. Morris \$3.50

H.M.Co.



### JUST OFF THE PRESS

### A BIBLIOGRAPHY

of

### WILLIAM BREWSTER

First President of the  
Massachusetts Audubon Society

By CHARLES F. BATCHELDER

A book  
for every Audubon member's library.

\$2.50 postpaid

Order now from

Nuttall Ornithological Club

C. RUSSELL MASON, Treas.,  
155 Newbury Street, Boston 16.

When dealing with advertisers please mention the BULLETIN



### Reviews of Recent Acquisitions

How simple our problems would be today with this handy pocket-size volume containing a fund of extremely practical information for all who are interested in our native wild flowers and their propagation! *Growing Woodland Plants* tells plainly, in simple non-technical language, just what are the optimum conditions for rearing many of our most attractive woods-haunting flowers and ferns. It explains how to transplant these delicate organisms with the least shock to their growing systems, and how to raise many of them from seeds or increase them by layering, root division, etc. It tells frankly which plants may be moved into a woodsgarden with impunity, and which ones cannot be so moved, and it warns us against attempting to transplant rarities unless we can provide proper soil and other conditions, lest common wild flowers become rarities, and rarities become extinct. And it presents a unique plea for the utilization of surplus plants; if a plant prospers in your woodsgarden, take some of the increment and "naturalize" it again in some spot where it perhaps once grew but has disappeared, and thus take one more step toward the restoration of our depleted woodlands.

The book is divided into two parts of unequal length. "In Part I, we have discussed in detail some basic characteristics of woodlands in relation to wildflower gardening; the preparation and care of woodsgardens; the collection and propagation of flowers and ferns; the utilization of surplus plants; and winter-forcing. Part II contains detailed descriptions and cultural directions for more than 200 kinds of wildflowers and ferns desirable for woodsgardens." The chapters on soil composition, "making synthetic soil," testing for soil acidity or "pH reaction," are especially informative, but it is hard to find anything in this compact volume which could be omitted. Mr. and Mrs. Birdseye have given careful scientific thought to processes which many of us have tried merely by rule of thumb (and like fingerprints, no two thumbs are exactly alike). I heartily recommend *Growing Woodland Plants* to anyone who has the proper place and sufficient time and interest to deserve a good woodsgarden.

JOHN B. MAY

**A GUIDE TO BIRD SONGS.** By Aretas A. Saunders. Doubleday & Company. New York. 1951. 307 pages, approx. 200 diagrams. \$3.00.

"Saunders" is with us again at last! When *A Guide to Bird Songs* was first printed in 1935, it was hailed by all as indispensable. In contrast to former works on the sounds of birds, Mr. Saunders used a completely new method of notation, one not dependent on our diatonic scale, and thus one that can be used by all of us, as well as being more suitable for bird songs. By a simple system of lines he manages to indicate the five characteristics of bird sounds—time, pitch, loudness, quality, and phonetics. However, his symbols are accurate in both time and pitch for the one who is curious to translate them into conventional scale. For the beginner, an ingenious key to bird songs will be helpful on occasion, despite those so-frequent trick songs of an individual bird. And the advanced listener now hears both old and new songs with fresh interest.

But this "Revised and Enlarged Edition" can hardly be called "Revised." I was unable to find a single change from the original text. It is "Enlarged," however, by an appendix dealing with thirty-eight species. Thirteen of these are birds of our region, certain of the shore birds and hawks. The other twenty-five are of the more southern and middle States, birds such as Summer Tanager, Blue Grosbeak, Bell's Vireo, and Lark Sparrow. In this appendix all items of plumage and range are omitted, sensibly, to allow more space for analysis of notes. Most water birds, certain hawks and owls, and a few song birds such as crossbills are still not included.

With Mr. Saunders, I deeply regret that apparently at this time the whole book could not have been truly revised. A fat, concise manual dealing only with the very many notes of *all* the birds of the East—I feel sure that Mr. Saunders now has the necessary data—would have made a bible like our Peterson. Despite this vain wish, know that many of birding's thrills will pass you by if you do not have a "Saunders"!

KATHARINE TOUSEY

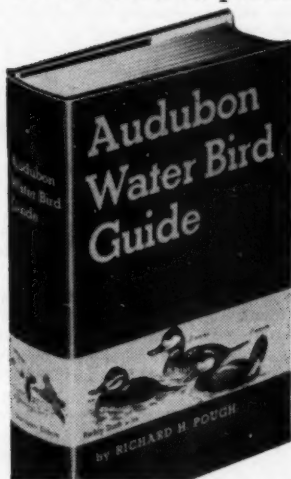
#### HELPFUL BOOKS FOR BEGINNERS

**Beginner's Guide to Wild Flowers** ..... 3.50  
Ethel Hinckley Hausman.  
**Beginner's Guide to Seashore Life** ..... 2.00  
Leon A. Hausman.

**Beginner's Guide to the Stars** .... 2.00  
Kelvin McKready.  
**Beginner's Guide to Fresh-water Life** ..... 2.00  
Leon A. Hausman.

## Which of these great bird books do you want?

Over 450 bird portraits in full color show 258 species!



## AUDUBON WATER BIRD GUIDE

Water, Game and  
Large Land Birds

by RICHARD H. POUGH, Research Associate,  
National Audubon Society. With 48 pages of  
illustrations in full color by DON ECKELBERRY,  
and 138 line drawings by EARL L. POOLE.

Finest bird identifications; uniform in format with the best-selling *Audubon Bird Guide: Small Land Birds* by the same author and illustrator. Every bird is shown in full color! Now you can accurately identify the water, game, and large land birds of Eastern and Central North America, from Southern Texas to Greenland. The text covers significant points of identification, over-all range, mating habits, and parts of the country in which the bird is found. Notes on food habits, method of attracting the birds, present status, and all unusual characteristics complete a new big-value guide for bird hobbyists and enthusiasts everywhere.

Size 4½" x 7¼"

Only \$3.50

The long-awaited companion book to AUDUBON BIRD GUIDE

Again available!

## A GUIDE TO BIRD SONGS

By Aretas A. Saunders

"By far the best book in the bird song field," says Richard H. Pough, author of the Audubon Bird Guides. Includes land birds and selected species of water and game birds, with their songs and calls set down in the author's famous "musical shorthand", clear diagrams that enable anyone to identify them easily.



Only  
\$3

Mail this coupon now, for  
**10 DAYS FREE EXAMINATION**

To: DOUBLEDAY & COMPANY, Inc.  
Dept. JMA6, Garden City, N. Y.

Send me the books I have indicated below. Within ten days I may either return the book(s) and owe nothing, or keep it (them) and send only the price of the book(s), plus a few cents shipping cost, in full payment.

..... Copies AUDUBON WATER BIRD  
GUIDE, \$3.50 each  
..... copies A GUIDE TO BIRD SONGS,  
\$3 each

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

CITY ..... ZONE ..... STATE .....

☐ Check here if you enclose payment. We pay postage. Same return privilege.

## From Our Correspondence

### A Sandpiper Joins the Family Circle

"In the late afternoon of October 14, 1950, as we were closing our house in Cohasset for the season, my son brought in from the beach a Western Sandpiper whose wing had been broken. A few telephone calls confirmed our suspicions that shore birds do not do well in captivity and that the kindest thing would be to do away with him then and there. This, however, was quickly voted down by the family; so room was made in the car beside the hamsters, goldfish parakeets, dog, and children, and "Peeper," as the children called him, was brought to Brookline. Here he was placed in a wire crate originally used to express a cat across the country. We put newspapers, a cake tin filled with water, and a small dish with sand for his crop on the floor of the crate. Later we found that he spent his time standing in the small dish instead of running around on the newspapers, so we sprinkled sand on the floor.

"It was obviously impossible to find the type of food to which he was accustomed, so we decided that since the bulk of it had been protein we would give him the most available form of protein which we had in the house, namely, slightly cooked horse meat. It was slightly cooked because the dog preferred it that way, and Peeper thought it was delicious, too. Ever since, he has eaten a good tablespoonful every day and a slice of orange. He has refused all forms of green and yellow vegetables, bread, and pabulum.

"At first Peeper didn't take any care of his feathers, although he always took a bath, but since the addition of a drop of *oleum percomorphum* to the meat every other day, though not necessarily because of it, he has been taking much more interest in his appearance, preening himself meticulously and now looks very well indeed in spite of considerable moulting.

"The room where we keep him has been cooler than the normal house, averaging between 55 and 60. I cannot say that he has become really tame. He flies up in the air and flutters wildly if one makes an unexpected motion when cleaning the cage, but he is very friendly and will chirp back at one in a most conversational manner. His wing, though most skillfully set at the Harvard Medical School, had had the wrist joint so badly shattered that it withered, and the terminal segment of bone with the primary feathers dropped off after several weeks, with the result that he is unable to stay upright in the air. Since he obviously is unable to fend for himself in the wild, he seems here to stay."

Ruth S. Chute

### Whence This Barn Owl?

"As a funeral was being held at St. James Church in Salem on April 12, the attention of the mourners was attracted to a ghostly whitish bird flying up and down the large nave, silently passing and repassing the handsome stained glass windows. To the superstitious it must indeed have seemed a bird of ill omen, for the flyer was a Barn Owl! *Tyto alba pratincola* then retreated to a high window sill, and there slept away the remaining daylight hours. Windows were left open in the hope that the uninvited visitor would depart after dark, and such must have been the case, for two priests and I searched the edifice vainly the next day.

"The broken window in the church spire, which must have been his entrance door, has been repaired, so that the steeple cannot be used for a nesting site, desirable as it may have been from the bird's viewpoint."

Dorothy E. Snyder



**ISLE AU HAUT**  
*A Bird Paradise and*  
*A Comfortable Inn . . .*  
 Accommodations usually available at  
**POINT LOOKOUT CLUB**  
 P. O. Box 1422, Boston, Mass.  
 After July 1 — Lookout, Maine

**WILD BIRDS ADD Charm TO YOUR GARDEN**

**AUDUBON FEEDERS KEEP BIRDS IN FULL VIEW WHILE FEEDING**  
 Feeders with and without squirrel guards, hanging and on pipe stands.  
 Write for our folder

**audubon workshop**  
 GLENCOE, ILLINOIS

**CAMERAS — PROJECTORS**  
**FILM RENTALS**  
 16 mm. Sound and Silent 8 mm.  
**PATHESCOPE COMPANY**  
 437 Stuart St. CO. 6-0640 Boston

### Field Notes

**RED CROSSBILLS** have been reported from Belmont and Cambridge since March 31, when Felix Cutler and Harold Hansen saw one on Belmont Hill. George Drew, of Belmont, reported that he was sure he heard Crossbills flying over his house. A few days later Mr. Drew heard them again and called Mrs. Hervey Elkins, and Mrs. Elkins observed fifteen to twenty Crossbills in Belmont on April 17. Dr. William Davis, of Belmont, reported seeing eleven of these birds in Mt. Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge, on April 15.

Perry Howe telephoned from South Harwich to report a **SNOWY EGRET** there on April 27.

A **ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK** was reported from Andover on May 2 by Mrs. J. H. Gould.

The **RED-HEADED WOODPECKER** which Mrs. Ralph Hentershee reported seeing at Tiverton, R. I., in early September was still present on April 24.

A **ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW** was seen in Fall River on April 27 by Mrs. A. F. Williston and Mrs. Ralph Hentershee, and Dr. John B. May observed a pair of these birds circling around a cut-bank in Hingham on May 2. On May 10, C. Russell Mason saw a flock of Swallows including Rough-wings migrating over the swamp on the Proctor Wildlife Sanctuary, Topsfield.

Dr. Horace Binney, of Milton, reports seeing and hearing a **TUFTED TITMOUSE** at Canton on May 1. Dr. Binney had previously seen the species in New Jersey.

Miss Frances G. Curtis, of Mt. Vernon Street, Boston, called to report a **WHIP-POOR-WILL** calling about four o'clock in the morning of May 1. The bird just called a few times, but the next evening, about 8:15, it was heard many times. Mt. Vernon Street is near the Public Garden in Boston.

Davis Crompton, who keeps a careful list of mammals, as well as birds, seen each year, reports both the **STAR-NOSED** and the **COMMON MOLE** at Cook's Canyon on April 21.

The female **SHOVELLER** that spent the winter in the Boston Fenway was last seen on April 21, according to a report from Miss Alice E. Hanson, who keeps an accurate check on the birds in the Fenway.

Mr. and Mrs. Bradley L. Baker, of Concord, N. H., report seeing an adult **BLUE GOOSE** in Salisbury, Mass., on April 8. With this adult Blue Goose were two immature geese, one an immature Blue, changing into adult plumage, and the other was too indefinite for positive identification.

### AT AUDUBON HOUSE

#### SUMMER BIRDS



#### THE MASSACHUSETTS AUDUBON SOCIETY

takes pleasure in presenting this fine new  
set of four

#### AUDUBON BIRD CHARTS

in full color, the work of the well-known  
bird artist Jacob Bates Abbott, illustrating  
some ninety species of the birds of the  
northeastern United States, under the head-  
ings of

**Winter Birds, 26 species**  
**Summer Birds, 22 species**  
**Game Birds, 29 species**  
**Birds of Prey, 13 species**

Lithographed in full color on heavy dur-  
able paper, 20 x 30 inches, metal bound  
at top and bottom for wall use.

Sold only in sets of four, in a substantial  
mailing tube, for only

**\$2.50 per set, postage prepaid.**

**One dozen sets, \$25.00**

*10% discount to Members*

### Field Notes

From Mrs. Walter Gropius, of South Lincoln, we have the following observations: FIELD SPARROW, April 1; WOODCOCK calling throughout April; CANADA GEESE, seven on April 8, forty-eight on April 17, and twenty on April 18; PILEATED WOODPECKER, a pair on April 2; MARSH HAWK on April 10 and April 19; SPARROW HAWK, April 13; RED-TAIL, April 16; BROAD-WING, two on April 22, and two on April 27; SHARP-SHIN, April 27.

Mrs. Thomas Morrison saw three GREEN HERONS in Marshfield on April 27, and a SNOWY EGRET there on April 29.

On his return from a four weeks' trip to British Honduras, Ludlow Griscom reports having seen many North American migrants. Among those observed were the Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher; Wood Pewee; Olive-sided Flycatcher; Cliff, Barn, and Bank Swallows; Red-eyed Vireo; Chestnut-sided, Cerulean, and Blackburnian Warblers; Scarlet Tanager; and flocks of Blue Grosbeaks. The Orchard Oriole was abundant, as many as fifty seen in a day, and the Baltimore Oriole was a regular weed bird.

Miss Barbara Proctor reports seeing, on April 2 and April 3, an immature WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE in the Taunton River, Somerset. The next day the bird was seen by Mrs. Ralph Hentersher, Mrs. A. F. Williston, and Mrs. Frank B. Albro before it left at sunset and high tide, about 6:00 P. M.

A BOB-WHITE, the first heard there for some years, was calling persistently near the Cohasset railroad station on April 20, according to Dr. John B. May.

Herbert W. Hastings, one of our Newbury Street neighbors and a resident of Weston, stopped to tell us of an extraordinarily beautiful sight he had in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, this winter. At the bird feeder just outside his window appeared at one sitting a pair of CARDINALS, one male and three female PAINTED BUNTINGS, and a PALM WARBLER.

Miss Dorothy E. Snyder writes that Lynnfield Marsh was the resort of shrikes this spring, when one or two were seen along the railroad track during the period from March 28 through April 8. All that were noted appeared to be NORTHERN SHRIKES in the spring breeding plumage—with very white under parts and both mandibles entirely black—which is so difficult to distinguish from that of the Migrant Shrike. A fourth bird was seen near Hali-but Point on April 10, which also appeared to be of this species.

### AT AUDUBON HOUSE

#### A MOCKINGBIRD SINGS

12-inch double-faced vinylite record produced under the supervision of the Massachusetts Audubon Society

10 minutes of imitations by the Mockingbird of more than 30 other species, with comment.

*Extraordinary — Educational*  
*Learn bird songs from the Mockers.*

\$2.50 each, no discount

#### NEW! DISTINCTIVE!

#### Wild Bird Correspondence Cards

By Francis Lee Jaques.

20 correspondence cards, 20 envelopes  
\$1.00

#### BIRD SONG RECORDS

- No. 1. Birds of the North Woods
- No. 2. Birds of Northern Gardens and Shade Trees
- No. 3. Birds of Southern Woods and Gardens
- No. 4. Birds of the Fields and Prairies
- No. 5. North American Game Birds
- No. 6. Birds of Western North America

*Now available in unbreakable material*  
*Twelve songs on each record*

Set of six records \$8.50

#### VOICES OF THE NIGHT

The calls of twenty-six frogs and toads found in eastern North America. This unique album contains four ten-inch records, eight sides, pressed in vinylite. A delight for all naturalists and ornithologists. \$6.50 per set.

*No Discount*  
*on any of the above articles.*

*For the convenience of our members, bird food and other items handled at Audubon's Store may be secured at the Berkshire Museum, Pittsfield, and Pleasant Valley Sanctuary, Lenox; Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary, Northampton; Moose Hill Sanctuary, Sharon; and Cook's Canyon, Barre. Prices subject to change without notice*



### Field Notes

Philip E. Perry, of Lexington, reports a white-winged ROBIN visiting for the third year.

A BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER was seen in one of the thickets on Plum Island on May 9 by Mrs. Clara deWindt.

Mrs. A. F. Williston reported a RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD at Tiverton, R. I., on April 24, and William Drury and party saw a Ruby-throat at the Proctor Wildlife Sanctuary in Topsfield on May 13.

Two pairs of PURPLE MARTINS were seen flying about and lighting upon a martin house at North Scituate, Mass., on May 16, by Dr. and Mrs. John B. May. The two males acted in a very possessive way, sitting on the porch of the house while the females flew about or lit on near-by wires or on the roof of the martin house itself.

Miss Elizabeth Fuller writes that on May 10 she saw a mother BLACK DUCK and seven young crossing the highway at the Wellesley-Needham line.

From Nantucket Mr. and Mrs. Philip Heywood report a CLAPPER RAIL on May 5, an ORCHARD ORIOLE on May 9, and nine LEAST TERNS and an OYSTER-CATCHER on May 10. The Oyster-catcher was seen clearly, standing and flying, for fifteen minutes.

A SNOWY EGRET was seen in Wood's Hole on April 20 by Dr. Lee J. Whittles, Mrs. C. B. Hurlburt, and Norris Prentice. Dr. Whittles also reports a WILSON'S PLOVER from Lyme, Conn., on April 7. This is the fourth year the Wilson's Plover has been found at this same location in April, but this year's date is the earliest of the four years.

In view of the few PURPLE MARTINS found as summer residents in Massachusetts, it is interesting to note the report of Wilfred Wheeler of two hundred of these birds strung along wires for 300 feet at Falmouth on May 2. Mr. Wheeler says that he notes a few of these birds migrating through about every year, but not over fifteen or twenty in a group until this season. Were these Martins headed for the South Carver colonies, or for some other destination?

On April 28, in Newburyport cemetery, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur W. Argue saw a female WOOD DUCK fly from a hole formerly occupied by Screech Owls in both the red and gray phases.

Some early migrants were observed in New Hampshire on April 28. A RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD was seen by Miss Miriam Tilden in Hampstead, and a RED-EYED VIREO was noted by Wesley Perkins in Hancock.

### AT AUDUBON HOUSE



#### BEAUTIFUL BIRD PRINTS BY FAMOUS ARTISTS

Superbly decorative, for your own home or that of a friend.

By ROGER TORY PETERSON

24 subjects, unframed, each \$ 5.00 to \$15.00  
Framed, each \$11.00 to \$25.00

By ATHOS MENABONI

Six subjects, unframed, each ..... \$ 7.50  
Framed ..... \$18.50

By FRANCIS LEE JAUQUES

Blue-winged or Green-winged Teal  
Unframed ..... \$ 7.50  
Framed ..... \$18.50

Also a limited number of framed reproductions of Audubon prints.

Come in and look them over, or write for descriptive price list.  
Boxing and shipping extra.

No discount on prints.

#### HUMMINGBIRD FLORAL CUPS

Hummingbird feeders filled with sweetened water will bring these bird jewels daily to your garden. Enjoy this fascinating sight.

Single Cup with wire bracket .... \$1.00  
Double Cups on flower stakes .. 2.00  
Triple Cups on flower Stakes .. 3.00  
Floral Fountain ..... 2.75  
"Attract-O" four small cups .. 1.25

### Field Notes

A few EVENING GROSBILLS were seen at Mrs. Isabel Bamford's feeder in Ipswich the last week in April, and the last bird left on April 26.

Eight to ten CLIFF SWALLOWS were seen at the Ipswich High School on April 26 by Mrs. Ray Lord, and by May 8 the number had increased to between twenty and thirty. The birds have nested there in past years and probably will do so again this year.

An AMERICAN EGRET and a male CARDINAL have been seen in Middleboro by Lester Spaulding and others. The Cardinal was first seen on April 11 and was still present on April 27. The American Egret was first seen on April 9, photographed by Mr. Spaulding on the 16th, and was last seen on April 19 by Miss Louise Pratt and party.

An INDIGO BUNTING was reported from Newton Highlands by Mrs. C. Russell Mason on May 10.

We learn from Miss Dorothy E. Snyder that the LOUISIANA WATER-THRUSH searched for vainly on Saturday, April 14, at Crooked Pond, Boxford, was singing loudly and continuously on April 15, the same date on which this bird was found there in 1950. This was earlier than any reports of this species from the Connecticut Valley, according to Miss Snyder.

Mrs. Bigelow Crocker reports that a TURKEY VULTURE was seen in Fitchburg on April 29. It flew low enough over their sleeping dog for her husband to hear the rustle of its wings.

A pair of BARN OWLS was seen by Charles Chase leaving the shelter of a highway bridge in Hingham, and later (April 29) the birds were seen by several members of the South Shore Bird Club.

On April 24, in Weston, George Beal, of Auburndale, saw three GREAT HORNEDED OWLS, two adults and one half grown, and on April 29 he returned and succeeded in photographing the young bird.

For Sale at AUDUBON HOUSE 155 Newbury St.,  
Boston 16, Mass.

### Even AUDUBON used a "SPY-GLASS"

for observing and identifying distant birds.

We sell the newest and best in binoculars and scopes.

### BAUSCH and LOMB

#### BINOCULARS with COATED LENSES

Cases included

6 x 30 Zephyr-Light Binocular,	
central focus .....	\$186.00
7 x 35 Zephyr-Light Binocular,	
central focus .....	186.00
8 x 30 Zephyr-Light Binocular,	
central focus .....	204.00
9 x 35 Zephyr-Light Binocular,	
central focus .....	204.00
7 x 50 Individual eye focus	210.00

20% Tax included in all prices, no discount

#### SPOTTING SCOPES

A handy, light scope, with interchangeable eyepieces. Length 13 21/32 inches. Weight 33 ounces.

B & L Spotting Scope	
20X, 27X, or 60X, coated ....	\$95.00
35X .....	98.50
Individual Eyepieces	
20X, 27X, or 60X .....	24.00
35X .....	27.75
13X .....	22.50

No Tax No Discount



### Seal Your Correspondence With AUDUBON CENTENNIAL SEALS

A drawing of Audubon at work.

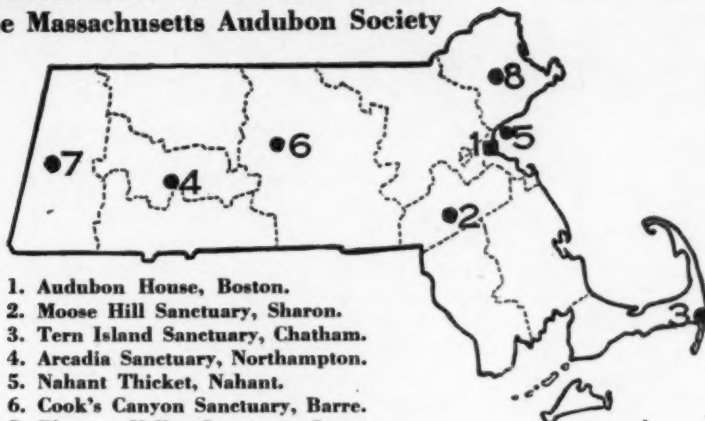
A sheet of 32 seals, printed in green on gummed paper, postage prepaid, 15c.

FIVE SHEETS, 50c

For Sale at AUDUBON HOUSE

or from any of our Sanctuary Superintendents.

## Audubon House and the Sanctuaries of the Massachusetts Audubon Society



1. Audubon House, Boston.
2. Moose Hill Sanctuary, Sharon.
3. Tern Island Sanctuary, Chatham.
4. Arcadia Sanctuary, Northampton.
5. Nahant Thicket, Nahant.
6. Cook's Canyon Sanctuary, Barre.
7. Pleasant Valley Sanctuary, Lenox
8. Proctor-Brown Reservation, Topsfield, Wenham and Hamilton.

---

## THE BERKSHIRE MUSEUM

Pittsfield, Mass.

The Berkshire Museum, Berkshire County's Public Art, Science, and Local History Museum, was founded by Zenas Crane, 1903.

### TRUSTEES

Gardner S. Morse, *President*

Mrs. Lawrence K. Miller, *Vice-President and Secretary*

Miss Mabel Choate

Mrs. Elizabeth S. Coolidge

Mrs. Bruce Crane

Winthrop M. Crane, III

Mrs. W. Murray Crane

Mrs. William Penn Cresson

Robert T. Francis

Richard H. Gamwell

Zenas C. Colt, *Treasurer*

Augustus McK. Gifford

Dr. George S. Reynolds

Mrs. Bruce W. Sanborn

Albert Spalding

### STAFF

Stuart C. Henry, *Director*

Bartlett Hendricks, *Curator of Science*

Walter L. Graves, *Secretary-Registrar*

Mrs. George T. Heath, *Membership Secretary*

Miss Frances E. Palmer, *Children's Department*

Fred H. Holden, *Building Superintendent*

The Museum is open free to the public 10 to 5 on week days, 2 to 5 on Sundays. It is closed Mondays.

As the Museum receives no money from the city, county, or state, its services to the public are made possible largely by memberships and gifts. Single (\$5.00 a year) members receive two invitations to the winter and summer Members' Nights, a discount on tickets to lectures and other events, and to courses for which a charge is made. Ten dollars (\$10.00) members have the same privileges for three persons.

In addition, Museum members now automatically become full members of the Massachusetts Audubon Society, with all privileges of membership, including *THE BULLETIN*.

Museum membership and gifts may be deducted from net income subject to Federal Income Tax.

---

Alvah W. Sanborn, Mrs. Richard H. Bailey, and Mrs. Wendell H. Stickney of the Audubon educational staff represent the Berkshire Museum and the Massachusetts Audubon Society in Berkshire County.

# **"CONSERVATION IN ACTION"**

## **THE AUDUBON EDUCATION PROGRAM**

*Is Supported Largely*

*By Your Current Dues and Donations*

**400 Weekly or Biweekly Classes in Conservation and Natural Science in the Schools of Massachusetts, taught by our staff of sixteen trained and experienced teachers, reaching 10,000 boys and girls during the school year.**

**Demonstration Natural History Camps for Children at five of the seven Audubon Sanctuaries in Massachusetts.**

**Natural Science Workshop for Camp Counselors, Teachers, and other Youth Group Leaders. Two sessions each summer.**

**200 Lectures annually by members of the Audubon Staff to Garden Clubs, Women's Clubs, Parent-Teacher Associations, School Biology Classes, and other groups.**

**Therapy Programs for Patients at several New England Hospitals.**

**Audubon Junior Clubs with 10,000 members in Schools, Museums, and Camps.**

**Local Bird Trips and Campouts for healthful recreation.**

**Circulars relating to Bird and Mammal Conservation distributed regularly to 7500 Youth Group Leaders throughout the Commonwealth.**

**Audubon Visual Aids furnished at small cost to Teachers and Lecturers.**

**The Audubon BULLETIN, an outstanding magazine in its field, published nine times a year. RECORDS OF NEW ENGLAND BIRDS monthly.**

**Annual Lecture Series: "AUDUBON NATURE THEATRE" and "TALES OF THE WILDWOOD" in a dozen cities and towns of Massachusetts.**

**Lending and Reference Libraries available to members.**

***WE APPRECIATE YOUR CO-OPERATION IN  
CARRYING ON THIS MOST IMPORTANT WORK OF  
THE SOCIETY.***

**Will you consider the desirability of making the Massachusetts Audubon Society a legatee under your will, or make such recommendation to your friends?**